discoveries, and the proofs afforded by geological researches of the omnipotence and benevolence of the Almighty Creator of the Universe, the orator concluded by urging upon the consideration of the "junior" subordinates in the profession the benefits they would derive by combining with their practical duties the study of "the sciences." This, he observed, would form an agreeable employment, to which they might resort amidst the drudgery and disappointment attendant on their low occupation as apothecaries.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR:—I have the honour to send to you the following resolutions, unanimously adopted at a most numerous general meeting of the students, held this day, at University College. I am, Sir, your very obedient servant,

JOHN TAYLOR, Chairman.
University College, Feb. 15, 1837.

Resolved,—1st, "That this meeting denies the truth of the assertions made, and strongly disapproves of the sentiments expressed, by the author of the letter in THE LANCET of February 11th, signed, "An University College Pupil," and is desirous of declaring its firm conviction, that the duties of the chair of surgery in this institution, are, in every particular, performed in the most efficient manner."

2nd, "That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be transmitted to the Editor of THE LANCET, and that he be requested to insert it in the next No. of his Journal."

AWARD OF THE ROYAL MEDAL.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR:—Having the pleasure to be one of the "immediate friends" of Mr. Kiernan, I have deemed it a duty to state, in reply to the latter paragraph of the letter of your correspondent F. R. S., that Mr. Kiernan expressed to me his decided regret at the publication of the letter alluded to, signed T. J. I think I am almost warranted in affirming, that since the adjudication on the 30th November, Mr. Kiernan has not in any way promoted the discussion relative to this unfortunate business.

Permit me, Sir, to conclude by quoting the sentiment of your correspondent F. R. S., "that inquiry into the *circumstances* and *propriety* of that award, is most certainly called for." I have the honour to be, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM J. E. WILSON.
55, Upper Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square.
Jan. 15, 1837.

ANATOMY IN DUBLIN.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR:—Every friend of science and humanity must be gratified to observe the progressive advantages of the Anatomy Act. The first conviction for a breach of that law took place in Dublin, in 1834. Since that time several of the resurrection gangs have been banished to Spain. The public mind is now reconciled, and parents send their sons to Dublin to study, without dread of danger to their lives or morals from the contamination of nightly exhumators. The parish authorities having become friendly to the change, the supply of subjects is regular, and, being fairly distributed to every school in rotation, the dissections are conducted with much greater care than formerly. There is no disappointment to any student who is desirous of improvement. It is just two years since THE LANCET published a statement of approbation on the subject, from the professors, and it is pleasing to find that their good opinion of the law is confirmed by longer experience. I enclose the resolution passed by them at their first meeting this year, and remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

ARTHUR HASSALL.

"Dublin, January 17th, 1836.

"We, the undersigned teachers of anatomy in the City of Dublin, consider ourselves called upon to state, for the information of his Majesty's Government, that the most satisfactory results continue to follow the enactment of the Anatomy Bill. The supply of bodies is amply sufficient for the purposes of instruction; the practice of exhumation is rendered unnecessary, and, if perpetrated at all, is only resorted to by persons seeking for teeth for the use of dentists.

"For these most satisfactory results, we consider ourselves indebted principally to the judicious arrangements, official firmness, and praiseworthy impartiality of the Inspector, Sir James Murray; and we here venture to express a hope that the chief secretary will have the goodness to continue that support and countenance to his exertions, which the Government has been hitherto pleased to offer:—

"Arthur Jacob, Prof. of Anatomy, R. C. S.
Rob. Harrison, Prof. of Anatomy, R. C. S.
J. Nolan, Demon. of Anat., Univ. of Dublin.
H. Carlisle, A.B., Demon. of Anat., ditto.
William Hargrave, M.B., Lect. on Anat. and Surg., Digges-street School.

J. Hart, M.D., Lect. on Anat., Park-st. Sch.
And. Ellis, Lect. on Surg., Peter-st. School.
G. T. Hayden, Lect. on Anat. and Surg., Original Peter-street School.

John H. Power, Lect. on Anat. and Physiol., Richmond Hospital School.

J. Denham, Lect. on Anat., Marlborough-st. School."

EXPERIMENT ON VISION.—*To the Editor.*—On placing a piece of yellow paper flat on a clean sheet of writing paper, and fixing the eye steadfastly upon the yellow, a deep lavender colour will appear to surround the yellow paper, and though the yellow paper be instantly removed, yet the delusion still continues, the only difference being, that the colour occupies the place of the removed paper, as well as the outer border which it before filled. Can you favour me by explaining, why a lavender colour in particular is reflected on the retina; or inform me in what work I should be most likely to find the phenomena solved? Your sincere well-wisher,

TYRO.

Islington, Feb. 14.

* * A lavender colour certainly is not "reflected" on the retina. That colour becomes apparent to the brain through the medium of the eye, in consequence, probably, of white and yellow rays, if we may so speak, impinging on the retina at the same time, and there producing, for the white border, the colour of lavender. Perhaps the paper was a "blue wove" sheet. If so, an analysis of lavender, could it be effected, might give yellow and white blue as its constituents. To all eyes, however, the same effect, or the same colour, may not become apparent on making the experiment.—ED. L.

NORTH LONDON HOSPITAL.

CREOSOTE AND ERGOT OF RYE IN DIABETES.

In page 128, vol. ii., 1835-6, of *THE LANCET*, we mentioned that Dr. ELLIOTSON had been induced to try the effects of creosote in diabetes, from some cases having been mentioned in a foreign journal of its having effected a cure in that disease. The good effects were not permanent in the case in question, and the patient eventually perished. Another case has lately been in the hospital, in which the creosote was once again tried. Dr. ELLIOTSON observed, that his experience went to prove that it would not effect a cure, though it might be of some benefit. It was given in gradually-increased doses, until it reached to thirteen minims three times a day, but without any perceptible benefit. It was then discontinued, and as there was no remedy for the affection, the ergot of rye was given, as it is known to restrain hæmorrhages; but this exerted no beneficial influence. Opium was afterwards given alone, and then joined with creosote, with the effect of gradually diminishing the quantity of urine from twelve pints daily to the secretion of a less quantity than is usual in health. The specific gravity, however, was never under 1030, and varied from that to 1040; and the man kept getting thinner and weaker, and eventually perished

from the influenza, which had supervened on a state of partially-developed ulceration of the lungs. Had not the urine so gradually decreased in quantity, Dr. ELLIOTSON said that he should have scarcely considered the decrease to be the effect of the opium, as a decrease might be expected just before death. This man had perished very rapidly from the influenza. He had seen a lady, who had only a slight cough, with a little sonorous rattle, perish from debility, before any thing could be done for her. There was no urgent symptom. This debility, he felt persuaded, would in many cases last for years. With regard to the treatment of influenza, he had found purgation, followed by the use of the warm bath, most beneficial. Some narcotic was useful in relieving the pains. In some cases, of course, there was congestion, and the last-named medicine could not be employed. Bleeding was generally borne very badly, and where there was necessity for antiphlogistic treatment, a blister and low diet was the extent to which it might be safely carried, though it was occasionally necessary to abstract blood locally.

CORRESPONDENTS.

We can only this week acknowledge the receipt of the communication headed "British Medical Association."

Mr. Hingston. The Poor-Law Act contains no such stipulation, but the Apothecaries' Act has an inoperative clause directed against parties acting under the name described.

Search shall be made for the letter of Medical Apprenticeships, but our impression is, that a notice appeared on the subject, which had already been much discussed.

The letters of *Mr. Waters*, *Mr. Whipple*, *Conservator Castigans*, *A Dublin Licentiate* and *A Mile-end Surgeon*, were received this week. The communications of *Tagliacozzi*, *J. F. R.*, *J. P.*, *Z.*, *Censor*, *Mr. C. W. Edwards*, *Mr. Radley*, have been received.

Cambro should allow us to attach his real name to his communication. Unless his objects, we will append it to his letter next week. Such statements and opinions will possess no value in the eyes of the profession if published anonymously.

We acted courteously and generously to the author of the letter with the Latin signature, and suffered to be published much from his pen that was untenable and nonsensical, without a comment, not fearing that the letter would pass for more than it worth. Presuming upon the insertion of his nonsense, he thinks that we shall also give publicity to his insolence. He is mistaken.

ERRATUM in Dr. Wallace's Lecture, page 554, line 6, for *bean-like* read *bran-like*.