tween sixty and seventy relations, bearing the family name of "MEMBER," and nearly double the number of "visitors," who, on the 3rd of November, will have the opportunity of witnessing the effect of a fortnight's growth of the infant Hercules. The rites were all performed with due solemnity, until Mr. LISTON, with a characteristic effort to procure a better view of one of the presents, trod for a moment on the toes of Dr. PEACOCK—a painful proceeding, which, however, considering the weight of the worthy surgeon's foot, was borne with equally characteristic patience.

While on the topic of christening, let us observe, that in the PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY it is pleasant to meet with so short a name. The founders were right not to burden it with a cumbersome and useless title. Some medical sponsors seem to regard long names as essential to clearness and dignity of character, whether the offspring be a society or a book. The "MEDICO CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY," (the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, that is;) the "Medico-Chirurgical Review;" the "Provincial Medical and Surgical Society," the "Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal," the "Monthly Medical and Physical Journal," the "British and Foreign Medical Review, or Quarterly Journal of Practical Medicine and Surgery;" and so on. Such titles indicate muddleheadedness at the christening. *Medico-Chirurgical*, *Medical and Surgical*, *Medical and Physical*, *Practical Medicine and Surgery*;—as though *Medicine and Surgery* were not one science! The profession themselves speedily cut down such names. Indeed, everywhere a disposition prevails to abridge long titles. A weekly periodical lately called the SPIRIT OF LITERATURE, was, in the first week, compressed by elision, at the News-Hall, into the easy euphonism of "SPITTLE-O-TRATURE." The collectors of the Societies for the Diffusion of Religious Information, the Promotion of Christian Knowledge, and the Propagation of the Gospel, have, for a long time, respectively pared down these ponderous names to the smoother cognominations of "SIETY 'FUSION," "SIETY 'MOTION," and "SIETY 'GATION." In like manner did the profession, in proper time, sensibly reduce the medical periodicals into such simple and commodious designations as "JOHNSON'S JOURNAL," "THE EDINBURGH," the "YELLOW FUNGUS," "THE HYDROPATHIST," &c.; and brief and expressive as is the title of THE LANCET, yet the wits and comparison-lovers, a curt and sententious race, whenever they chance to mention "THE VIPER," by acute apprehension of the old fable, call us, "THE FILE."

We wish the new association a flourishing career. Next week we shall publish a report of the very interesting communications of Mr. LISTON, Dr. QUAIN, and the other contributors; but before another meeting is held, let us advise the members to cultivate an audible, steady, and collected mode of reading their papers. On Tuesday night, a third, at least, of the audience must have missed hearing, intelligibly, a large portion of those which were read on that occasion.

By-the-by, has the thought struck any of the Councils of the various London medical societies, that, in self-defence, some change may become essential in the terms of subscription? We are not speaking with reference specially to the new Society, for we know not what are the terms of admission. But if care be not taken, the subscriptions to the metropolitan associations will become so heavy a tax on the profession, that, amidst all its troubles, the profession will begin to

decline them. The *Medical and Chirurgical*, the *London*, the *Westminster*, the *South London*, the *Hunterian*, the *Harveian*, the *Medico-Botanical*, the *Guy's Physical* and various hospital societies, besides many other local medical societies, to which may be added (for a large part of the members are medical men) the *Royal Society*, the *Linnean*, the *Microscopical*, the *Ethnological*, the *Chemical*; nay, numerous physicians and surgeons are on the Councils of the *Royal Institution*, the *Pharmaceutical*, the *Zoological*, and the *Statistical Societies*;—and now arises the *Pathological*. Three guineas annual contribution to one, two to another, a guinea each to a dozen others, (and we know some medical men whom the ties of society, position, or inclination, have bound them to nearly all)—these circumstances will soon make the question of membership one of economy, and bring the yearly subscription under serious consideration. The sum should be discussed in time, before alienations occur which will endanger the stability of many a valuable union. Neither the Council of the PATHOLOGISTS, nor of any other Society, must be angry at this admonition. The season makes it well-timed.

REFUSAL OF LICENTIATES OF THE APOTHECARIES' COMPANY TO MEET GRADUATES IN MEDICINE IN CONSULTATION.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Dr. Scott (who is an M.D. of Edinburgh University, and also a licentiate of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh) informed me, a few days ago, that he was attending a serious case, respecting which he proposed a consultation, when it was agreed that Mr. Morley (M.R.C.S. & L.A.C.) should be sent for. On meeting, Mr. Morley stated, that he could not attend professionally, in consultation, any one who was not a licentiate of Apothecaries' Hall. Having previously met Mr. Morley myself, in consultation, I considered it my duty to write to him on the subject, which I did as follows:—

"DEAR SIR,—Dr. Scott has informed me, that you stated to him, that you could not meet him professionally, because he was not a licentiate of the Apothecaries' Company. I am desirous to ascertain from yourself, whether such be the fact, as I am in the same predicament.—I am, dear Sir, yours truly,
"Heaton-street, Sept. 1846."
"J. CURRIE."

To this I received the following reply:—

"DEAR SIR,—I desire not to lose an hour, before informing you, that Dr. Scott's report to you is quite correct. Indeed, I feel no little surprise, that you seem ignorant of the fact, that I have invariably declined to meet any illegal practitioner. When I had the pleasure of meeting you in consultation, some time since, I had not the slightest suspicion that you were practising illegally, or of course I should have declined to meet you. I act thus, just on the same principle that I should coöperate, so far as my name goes, with my professional brethren, legally qualified, in condemning all illegal practice. But you are not ignorant, that my own opinion is, that the present law should be so altered, as to constitute all who hold a British diploma, including also Ireland, legal practitioners. This opinion I have always, at all times, and in all places, expressed. In the meantime, until the present law be so altered, I shall always feel it to be my duty, with all proper courtesy, to decline meeting in consultation a practitioner whom the law does not recognise as entitled to practise.

"There is something very anomalous in the state of the profession in Blackburn; for while I am by no means in favour of prosecuting men who hold Scotch or Irish diplomas, yet I cannot consider it, under the existing law, right or just, to meet them; and, on the other hand, some of our medical men are in favour of prosecuting and meeting them in consultation at the same time. There may be some inconsistency in both views, though of course I think mine consistent.—I am, dear Sir, yours truly,
"Princes-street, Sept. 1846."
"J. MORLEY."

Drs. Scott, Irvine, and myself, having been informed that several meetings had been held by the greater number of the

medical men of Blackburn, at which it had been determined by most of them not to meet us, and, by many, to endeavour to induce the Apothecaries' Company to prosecute, we came to the conclusion to publish the inclosed, which appeared in the *Blackburn Standard* of this day:—

"To the Inhabitants of Blackburn and its vicinity.

"In consequence of an agreement entered into by most of the medical practitioners of Blackburn, not to meet, nor treat professionally, any one, whatever may be his qualifications, who is not a licentiate of the Apothecaries' Company, we, the undersigned, beg leave to intimate that, as we do not consider the licence of the Apothecaries' Company of such a character as to entitle its possessors to usurp such an authority, we are resolved, henceforward, when called to the cases of those who have entered into such an arrangement, to act as if no medical attendant had been previously employed.

"The nature of the apothecaries' licence will be best understood by the following quotation from the act of parliament:—'That it is the duty of apothecaries to prepare with exactness, and to dispense as may be directed for the sick by any physician, &c.'

"Now, we do not profess to be traders in drugs, and we consider the system of charging by the quantities of medicine which may be furnished to a patient, as unprofessional in principle, and frequently dishonest in practice.

"With every desire to maintain the etiquette of our profession, in its strictest sense, we have to express our regret that we have been compelled, in self-defence, to have recourse to this mode of procedure.

"W. SCOTT, M.D., Surgeon.

"W. IRVING, M.D., Surgeon.

"J. CURRIE, Surgeon.

"September 22nd."

P.S.—I may state, that having been called to cases of Mr. Morley's during his absence from town, in consequence of illness, I delivered them over to him, of my own accord, on his return, although not called to them on his account.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. CURRIE, L.R.C.S.E.

Blackburn, Sept. 1846.

* * The letter of Mr. Morley is a very sensible defence of his proceeding. But in acting upon the principles that he has adopted, it should ever be borne in mind that the fault lies in bad laws, and not in the unworthiness of the gentlemen who pay the penalty of medical misgovernment. The "physician" who refuses to meet the "surgeon-apothecary" in consultation, has always been considered by the latter to have but a sorry defence for his custom.—ED. L.

FRAUDULENT USE OF THE NAME OF A QUACK'S DUPE.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In my humble capacity in society, (a clerk in a public establishment,) I have never yet presumed to enter the arena of public discussion, upon any subject, but I feel compelled, in justice to my suffering fellow-creatures, to make known the following particulars:—

An advertisement has been from time to time inserted in all the newspapers and periodicals, with the attractive preface of "Wonderful Cure by Holloway's Pills," wherein I am stated, in the most unequivocal manner, to have been cured in three weeks, through the use of this "medicine," of a distended stomach, bad digestion, settled pains in the chest, &c.

My attention having been called to this advertisement through the medium of many noblemen, &c., who addressed letters to me, inquiring into the veracity of the "Professor's" assertion, I wrote, some days ago, to him, forbidding him inserting such advertisement again, it being a gross exaggeration of facts, having, instead of being benefited, been reduced, through their use, to the most distressing state of debility and weakness of stomach, (which I had never previously had,) from which I am now but slowly recovering.

By the same post as that by which I sent this letter, I forwarded a copy to the Editor of *The Morning Advertiser*, with liberty to him to publish it, for the benefit of the public: my letter, however, has been, like petitions in another place, "laid on the table," and, instead of its appearance, the advertisement of which I complain was re-inserted on Monday last. I am designated in the advertisement an "Esquire," a title to which I certainly cannot aspire, at least, at present.

Will you kindly inform me what course I should pursue, to prevent my name being made use of under these circumstances.—I remain, Sir, your most obedient servant,

T. GARDINER.

Sept. 1846.

* * Mr. Gardiner may consult his attorney respecting this most impudent fraud. Many reasons exist why he should proceed against the lying quacks, only upon legal advice given to him after a careful personal statement of the facts, in consultation. Although the law may supply a remedy for the mischief which is done to the reputation of a man, by publicly allying him with rogues and impostors, yet the mode of handling that intricate machine requires to be directed by one who is perfectly familiar with its numerous complications.

REPUDIATION OF A QUACK.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I have forwarded a circular which has been pretty extensively distributed throughout the west of England, and especially among the good people of Plymouth, Stonehouse, and Devonport. It is hardly necessary to say that there has never been any individual of the name of Wilson connected with the London Hospital.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

London Hospital, Oct. 1846.

H. LETHEBY.

"DISEASES OF THE CHEST AND LUNGS.—As it is in contemplation to establish a dispensary for the treatment of diseases of the chest, in the mean time, Dr. Wilson, late physician to the London Hospital, will give gratuitous advice, at his residence, 13, Portland-square, on the mornings of Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from ten to twelve o'clock.

"Plymouth, Jan. 7th, 1846."

EAST INDIA MEDICAL INTELLIGENCE.

APPOINTMENTS, &c.—(Date of advices, Aug. 15th to 27th last.)
BENGAL PRESIDENCY.—Assist.-surgs.: C. N. Sissmore to do duty with 6th batt. of artill. at Umballah; J. Sutherland app. to med. charge of civil station at Banda; S. M. Griffith app. to med. charge of civil station at Purneah; R. B. Kinsey app. to the med. charge of the civil station at Darjeeling.—Surg. J. Stokes, M.D., is in medical charge of Sandoway in Arracan.—Assist.-surg. R. D. D. Allen, M.D., posted to 49th reg. N. I., at Benares.—Surgs.: A. C. Duncan, M.D., rem. from 49th to 9th reg. N. I.; H. M. Tweddell app. garrison surg. at Chunar, v. Innes, M.D., dec.—Assist.-surgs.: K. W. Kirk, M.D., posted to light batt. of Bundelcund legion at Jhansi, and to proceed on river Ganges till Dec. on med. cert.; T. Mawe app. to med. charge of 34th reg. N. I., v. Kirk; C. Harland employed at civil station of Ghazee pore; J. A. Guise passed vernac. exam.—Surgs.: C. Griffiths rem. to 25th N. I. at Khyook Phyoo in Arracan; J. Duncan, M.D., rem. from 23rd to 5th N. I. at Dacca.—Assist.-surgs.: D. McNeil, M.D., to be surg., v. Innes, dec.; J. Hope to be surg., v. Smith, retired.

MADRAS PRESIDENCY.—Assist.-surg. J. Pringle, M.D., is doing duty in Northern div.—Veterinary-surg. C. D. Scarr removed from 2nd to do duty with 4th light cav.—Assist.-surgs.: A. Hunter app. zillah surg. at Chingleput; J. D. V. Packman leave to Neilgherries for six months on med. cert.; J. Colebrooke has passed required colloq. exam.; A. H. Howe rem. to med. charge of C company 3rd batt. at Saugor; — Lloyd, M.D., doing duty with H.M.'s 4th foot.

Admitted to Service.—Assist.-surg. J. Wilson, M.D.

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.—Assist.-surgs.: Braikenridge, dec., at Sukkur on 23rd July; W. J. Stuart has proceeded to Calicut on leave for three months on private affairs; A. R. Fraser and C. C. Meade are on duty at the pres.; Saunderson is with left wing 25th N. I. at Malligaum; Skelding is attached to 1st batt. of art.; A. Wright is at present on leave on private affairs; R. Nuttall is with the 9th N. I. at Nassick.—Superintending-surg. J. Burnes, M.D., has been appointed to north-west div. of Guzerat.—Assist.-surgs.: R. S. Jackson and G. J. McKenzie passed req. colloq. exam.; J. G. Fraser posted to 2nd light cav.—Surgs.: Arnott has leave to proceed to Bombay; T. Waller appointed superintend. of Mahableschewur, v. Gray, whose tour of duty has expired.

Admitted to Service.—Assist.-surg. C. C. Mead.

THE CHOLERA was gradually moving up the Indus in the middle of August. The *Bombay Gentleman's Gazette* states that