per annum would be inadequate to the expenditure having been made a few months after the opening of the school, it could have been proved at the meeting, on the authority of the founder himself, had permission been accorded, that this fact was known to the Council more than two months previously to the opening, and that so far from its being rendered compulsory by the Act of Incorporation to raise the annual payment to £40, it is believed and contended by those gentlemen with whom I have acted, that the Council have been most erroneously advised as respects the interpretation of the Act, which, according to the opinion of one of the most eminent members of the Chancery bar, on a clearly and impartially drawn case, undoubtedly gives them the power to make good from the general fund any deficit which may occur in the exhibitor's department. In corroboration of this view I quote the following paragraphs of Mr. Roundell Palmer's opinion:—

"I am unable to concur in the opinion on which the Council have been advised to act, and have acted with reference to the construction of the 38th clause."

"My own opinion (and I am bound to say it is a decided one) is, that the clause referred to does not in any manner prohibit the application of part of the funds of the College in aid of the expenses of the education, board, lodging, and washing of the exhibitors, and that the Act of Parliament did not render necessary any alteration of Rule 30, as to the charge of not more than £30 a year for exhibitors, although it may be capable of proof that the cost of the education, board, lodging, and washing of such exhibitors may exceed £30 a year."

"The original prospectus, the laws of May 18th, 1854, and even the address of April, 1856, (issued after the passing of the Act,) plainly show that exhibitors are to be partly maintained at the expense of the charity, and to pay not more than £30 towards their own expenses, (except books,) constituted one main portion of the original design, and, in fact, that the school department of the charity was principally designed for these exhibitors."

Your report proceeds to state that the resolutions, three in number, were moved by Mr. Bateman, and seconded by Dr. Ballard; but in truth the first resolution only was submitted to the meeting. This was proposed by Mr. Bateman, and seconded by Dr. Ballard, who was interrupted in his speech, as I think most unfairly, by the Chairman, when he was about to prove from such unmistakable data as must have convinced all who had not prejudged the question, that an annual saving of upwards of £1360 might be effected, which sum, it will be observed, would have amply covered the excess of exhibitors' expenditure over receipts mentioned in a subsequent portion of your report. An amendment to the first resolution was carried by, I am bound to admit, a very large majority; but I am also strongly of opinion, that had the votes been taken by ballot, the diminished disparity in the numbers of the ayes and noes would have somewhat astonished the Council. In conformity with Law 6, and previously to the show of hands, we demanded the ballot, but in vain! The usual vote of thanks was awarded to the chairman, and the meeting dispersed, leaving our second and third resolutions unconsidered. The point for which we are contending is, that the annual charge for exhibitors should be £30 instead of £40, and we are prepared to prove that our views are tenable—

1stly.—By the fact that the Act of Parliament empowers the Council to apply the funds of the College to exhibitors' purposes.

2ndly.—By the careful and elaborate statement in figures which Dr. Ballard was prevented from submitting to the meeting.

Sir, I regret exceedingly that I cannot concur in those portions of your report which express a hope "that this contest will now terminate," and an opinion, that "it is well for all parties that the subject has been fully and openly discussed."

How, indeed, can we assent to the conclusion that it has received a full and fair consideration, when we have so vivid a recollection of the unfair and extraordinary proceedings of the 3rd instant? My regret, however, is mitigated by the knowledge that Mr. Cattlin (one of my warmest coadjutors in this most righteous cause, and than whom no man more earnestly desires the prosperity of the College) will shortly publish an exposition of the sentiments of the dissentient governors, based upon a searching analysis of the law and facts of the case, and supported by a very decided opinion, emanating from a gentleman who is *facile princeps* in his own Court, and on a question of this nature second to none. I earnestly hope and believe that when Mr. Cattlin's pamphlet shall have received at your hands an impartial review, and at those of the governors generally, a calm and dispassionate perusal, it may be the happy

means of dispelling the mists of prejudice from the minds even of our most influential opponents, and thereby pave the way for such an equitable adjustment of this vexed question as shall amply satisfy the wishes of the memorialists, recal to our ranks the many who on this account have seceded, and shed bright gleams of comfort over those impoverished members of our profession, to whom, when in its infancy, our noble institution pleaded not in vain, and whose pristine hopes of aid in the education of their children will then be happily realized.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

Islington, April, 1857.

JOHN BROWN, M.D.

* * There were no inaccuracies as to matters of fact in our remarks, beyond the circumstance that only one of the resolutions was put instead of the three which had been advertised for some weeks before, as those to be submitted to the meeting. It has been distinctly stated by the Council, that it was calculated by them that the expense of each exhibitor would not exceed £30 per annum. With respect to the interpretation of the Act of Parliament by which the affairs of the College are regulated, we are informed that the Council acted under the highest legal advice. It is clear that the opinion of the dissentients with respect to the statute coincided with that of the Council at the time the third resolution was promulgated. These being the facts, where are the inaccuracies in reasoning? We shall await the publication of Mr. Cattlin's pamphlet, and endeavour to do justice to all parties.—[ED. L.]

VACCINATION AND THE MURRAIN.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I am not a little surprised at a correspondent of yours, "H. L. S.," suggesting that vaccination should be tried upon cattle, as "*it is possible* that, duly performed, it might render them proof against the contagion of murrain."

Now, Sir, as far as I can learn about the disease now prevalent in the north of Europe, what is vaguely termed murrain is a sort of choleraic typhus which speedily becomes fatal, and I see it is styled contagious typhus by Mr. J. S. Gamgee, in his letter which appears in the same number of THE LANCET. How vaccination is to prevent a disease of such a different character I am at a loss to conceive; for if I understand the principle on which it succeeds in preventing small-pox in man, it is, that you substitute a mild disease of the same character; or, in other words, in the vaccine vesicle you have a form of variola or small-pox modified by passing through the cow, as satisfactorily proved by the successful experiments of Mr. Ceely. For the same reason, how can you expect to have the measles in the pig prevented by vaccination, as suggested by some?—that disease being produced by an animal parasite, the *cysticercus cellulosæ*, or bladder flesh worm. I believe also that most of the educated practitioners of veterinary medicine are of opinion that vaccination is worthless against the distemper of dogs.

I have no objection to experiments, but pray let them be based upon physiological and pathological grounds. I expect that "H. L. S." will find some difficulty in obtaining subjects for his experiments; at any rate, Mr. Ceely did.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Colchester, April, 1857.

JAMES A. CHURCHILL, M.R.C.V.S.

LAUDANUM AN ANTIDOTE TO ARSENIC.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I consider the facts narrated by Mr. Steinmetz, respecting tobacco as an antidote to arsenic, very interesting, the more so from the following circumstances:—

About thirty-five years ago, I was called to see a young woman, residing near the Elephant and Castle, Newington, who had swallowed arsenic, and who recovered under the free use of new milk, which about that time had been strongly recommended by Dr. Currie in his lectures at Guy's Hospital. I was then on intimate terms with the late Dr. Armstrong, and on mentioning the subject to him, he stated that two cases had come under his observation, in which the persons, after taking arsenic, had also taken large doses of laudanum. If I remember right, one took an ounce, and the other half that quantity. The symptoms from arsenic quickly disappeared, and both recovered.

I mentioned Dr. Armstrong's account to the late Dr. Gordon Smith, and he said he should mention it in the next edition of

his Forensic Medicine. Whether he did so or not I have no means at hand of ascertaining.

I have my theory as to the action of these narcotics in such cases, but we want more facts.

I am, Sir, one of your oldest correspondents,
Colchester, April, 1857. JAMES MORRIS CHURCHILL, M.R.C.S.

"THE LAMBETH M.D."

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Some time ago, you made some remarks upon the abuse of the power vested in the Archbishop of Canterbury, in consequence of his "dubbing" into an M.D. a certain hydro-pathist, who, in my recollection, formerly combined the trade of oil and colourman with that of druggist. The worthy archbishop has lately extended his patronage to the head of the *homœopathists* in this city, who now figures on his front door plate as Dr. ——. I think it is high time the profession took steps to put a stop to this degradation of the title M.D. I would respectfully ask the archbishop what he would think if his pulpit were usurped by a nonconformist who preached the doctrine that neither baptism nor confirmation were necessary to carry out the doctrines of the Church of England?

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
Manchester, April, 1857. AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.

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 13th inst. :—

ALCOCK, JOHN, Cobridge, Staffordshire.
BANNISTER, ALFRED JAMES, Trafalgar-square, Chelsea.
BARFORD, JAMES GALE, Wokingham, Berkshire.
BROCK, EDWARD, Canterbury.
CHAPPELL, JOHN JAMES, Axmouth, Devon.
HODGES, WM., Brecon, S. Wales.
MARRIOTT, CHAS. WM., Leamington, Warwickshire.
RAMSBOTHAM, WALTER BASNETT, Amwell-street, Claremont-square.
RENTZSCH, GEO. HENRY, Haverstock-hill, Hampstead.
RICHARDSON, FRANCIS HUNT, Highgate.

LICENTIATES IN MIDWIFERY.—The following members of the College were admitted Licentiates in Midwifery at the meeting of the Board on the 15th inst. :—

BAKER, WM. LANGWORTHY, Newton Abbot, Devon, diploma of membership dated March 30, 1857.
BLACKALL, JOHN GEO., Hoxton, March 27, 1857.
DAVY, FRANCIS JEAFFORD, Knighton, Devon, March 13, 1857.
DENNE, THOS., Sittingbourne, Kent, Feb. 29, 1857.
EVANS, ABEL, Llanlyssil, Cardiganshire, March 25, 1857.
GIRDLESTONE, WM. THEOPH., Wordsley, Staffordshire, Dec. 12, 1856.
HAMILTON, WM., Tarbut, Ireland, Dec. 22, 1854.
HETHERINGTON, JOSEPH, Lamplugh Hall, Cumberland, March 30, 1857.
JOHNSON, OSBORNE, Bassingham, Newark, Notts, June 23, 1851.
JONES, WM. PODMORE, Marlborough-place, Old Kent-road, March 6, 1857.
KNAGGS, HENRY, Huddersfield, March 27, 1857.
MUDD, WM., Hadleigh, Suffolk, Oct. 24, 1856.
NOBLE, WM., Linton, Herefordshire, July 29, 1853.
THOMAS, JOHN, Cardigan, March 25, 1857.

NEW FELLOWS.—The following members of the College were admitted to the Fellowship at a meeting of the Council on the 8th inst. :—

ANDERTON, HENRY, Much Woolton.
BERNARD, RALPH MONTAGUE, Clifton.
BESEMERES, WILLIAM, Old Kent-road.
BROWN, ROBERT, Brixton-hill.
BYFRLY, ISAAC, Seacombe, Cheshire.
CLIFTON, NATHANIEL HENRY, Islington.
CROFT, CHARLES ILDERTON, Laurence Pountney-hill.
ELLIOTT, ROBERT, Chichester.
EVANS, RICHARD DAVID JONES, Hertford.
EWEN, HENRY, Long Sutton.
FAWSETT, FREDERICK, Wisbeach.
FENTON, JOHN, Liverpool.

HARRINSON, ISAAC, Reading.
HILLS, GEORGE, Keighley.
IBBETSON, GEORGE AUGUSTUS, Brook-street.
KINGSFORD, EDWARD, Sunbury.
LISTER, JOHN, Doncaster.
MINTER, J. MOOLENBURGH, H.M.S. *Victoria and Albert*.
NICHOLSON, JOHN FREDERICK, Stratford-green.
NOURSE, WM. EDWARD CHARLES, West Cowes.
ROBERTS, WATKIN WILLIAM, Carnarvon.
SCOTT, EDWARD JOHN, Southsea.
STROTHER, ARTHUR, Darlington.

At the same meeting of the Council, Messrs. JOHN MACMEKAN, of Stratford, and JOHN DREVER, of Birmingham, were admitted *ad eundem* members of the College.

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

Thursday, April 9th.

COCKCROFT, GEORGE EDMUNDSON, Middleham, Yorkshire.
EDWARDS, HENRY JOHN, Bampton, Devon.
GRANGER, WILLIAM SLOCOMBE, Bradford Abbots, near Sherborne.
JAMES, HERBERT, Merthyr Tydfil.
LEWIS, ROBERT BENSON, Bradford, Yorkshire.
MASTERS, JOHN, jun., Ilminster.
ROBSON, FREDERICK ABERCROMBIE HOPE, Peninsular and Oriental Company's Service.
SKAIFE, HENRY, Easingwold, Yorkshire.
THOMPSON, WILLIAM WITTMAN, Bognor, Sussex.
WOODHOUSE, THOMAS JAMES.

THE LETTSOMIAN LECTURES.—The Lettsomian Lectures on Midwifery will this year be delivered by Dr. Barnes, who has selected for his subject: "The Physiology and Treatment of Flooding from Unnatural Position of the Placenta." As the able lecturer is understood to have arrived at some new views upon this important subject, his exposition is looked for with considerable interest.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.—Messrs. Holden and Savory, the demonstrators of anatomy in the Medical School attached to this institution, have just been appointed to superintend courses of surgical operations on the dead body during the summer session. The privilege of entering to the course is open to *all* students.

PORTRAIT OF JOHN HUNTER.—It may not, perhaps, be generally known that the engraving of Hunter by William Sharpe is admitted by the best judges to be one of the finest, if not the very finest, specimen of the art ever executed. Sharpe always considered his engraving of Hunter to be one of his happiest efforts, and was found poring over it with admiration forty years after he had executed it. It is now rarely to be met with in good condition, and, as an illustration of its value, it may be mentioned that, at the recent sale of the effects of Mr. Edward Utterson, a remarkably fine impression was knocked down for ten guineas. From this proof, Mr. Hogarth, of the Haymarket, has produced one of the marvels of the nineteenth century, a photographic portrait of the distinguished physiologist, as large as Sharpe's engraving, which conveys, line for line and touch for touch, all the beauty and spirit of the original, and at the cost only of a few shillings. It will be greatly valued by lovers of the fine arts, and all admirers of the genius of John Hunter.

DR. ARMSTRONG, R.N., had the honour of an interview with H.R.H. Prince Albert, at Buckingham Palace, on Saturday last, and presented a copy of his "Narrative of the Discovery of the North-west Passage."

DEATH FROM AMYLENE.—Last week, a patient, aged thirty-three, was operated upon for fistula in ano, by Mr. Ferguson. Previous to the operation, amylenes was administered by Dr. Snow. Unconsciousness was produced in two minutes, and the operation quickly performed, the anæsthetic being inhaled altogether three minutes. The pulse ceased during the operation, but respiration continued for at least ten minutes afterwards. The patient moved after the pulse ceased, and gave signs of rallying. These symptoms proved, however, fallacious, and he died in a few minutes. On examination, there was found slight dilatation of the right ventricle of the heart; the lungs were emphysematous. Dr. Snow concludes that death resulted from the amylenes, the condition of the lungs probably tending to the fatal result. This case was the 144th in which Dr. Snow had administered amylenes, and on no other