

portunities of treating diseases of this nature by the mode recommended by Mr. Lawrence, with the greatest success, I felt disappointed that the measure had not been adopted in this case, as I conceived it to be one in which it was strongly called for. Not only would the vessels and cellular and fascial tissue of the limb have been effectually unloaded, and the local irritation and consequent irritative fever, have been thereby much diminished; but the spread of the inflammation to the trunk would, probably, have been prevented, and the system (already much broken down) spared the exhausting effect of the general depletory treatment which was adopted.

I believe, that the advantage of making early and free incisions, in the cases of erysipelatous and carbunculous inflammation, to arise from relieving the system from the immediate effects of irritation, arising from inflammation of unyielding tissue; and, ultimately, of sparing it from the debilitating effects of a protracted discharge of pus, and of dead cellular membrane and fascia.

I am, Mr. Editor,
Your obedient servant,
QUÆSITOR.

Nov. 24, 1828.

PER-CENTAGE SYSTEM.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—An invalid, suffering from the pernicious effects of adulterated drugs and ill-compounded medicines, for which the French pharmaciens are notorious, and feeling deeply for the interest and health of my fellow countrymen, I cannot forbear directing your and their attention, to a system of combination between certain British physicians and French pharmaciens in Paris, which is now carried to such a scandalous and mischievous pitch, that it has drawn upon the offenders the ironical animadversion of the *Parisian Press*.

The following is copied from *The Corsaire*: "A medical paper called the *Hygie*, recently gave a letter from the pharmacien Beral, Rue de la Paix, to Dr. Ch—s—de, who had just arrived from London, for the purpose of initiating him into certain customs which he calls French, and which consist of the pharmacien engaging the doctor to send all his prescriptions to him; the pharmacien consenting to pay the officious doctor a reasonable sum. All this may be true, but it is long since the English physicians, Morg.—Tup, and Mac—g—lin, bargained with the pharmacien Beral; and the *Hygie* is wrong in saying, that these lucrative arrangements began with the French, for

every body knows, that in commercial affairs, the English always take the lead."

An English Journal, published in Paris, contains the following:—"The English nobility and gentry are most respectfully informed, that a Pharmacy will shortly be opened, quite in the English manner; physicians supporting this establishment, will receive as liberal a *per centage* as at any other Pharmacy."

"N. B. Each prescription will be numbered, and the doctors paid at the end of every month."

"'Tis true, 'tis pity;
And pity 'tis, 'tis true."

I am, dear Sir,
Your obedient servant,
AN ENEMY TO THE PER CENTAGE
SYSTEM

LONDON MEDICAL SOCIETY.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Your report of the proceedings at the London Medical Society, on the 10th instant, is strictly correct. I did there and then say, "that if a servant of the society were to be permitted to beard the Fellows, it would be a question whether such servant should be allowed to retain his situation." These remarks were intended to apply to the Registrar. It is preposterous to suppose, that I could regard the visit of Mr. Blenkarne as one of a hostile nature, coming, as he did, from a servant of the Society; although on that occasion, as well as at the meeting, I felt no hesitation in avowing, that *personal* offence was not intended.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
JAMES LAMBERT.
Walworth, Nov. 21st, 1828.

BLISTERS IN MEASLES.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—You will oblige me by correcting an error which is contained in your last Number, in the report of the conversation which took place at the Westminster Medical Society, upon the subject of the treatment of measles. I am reported to have said, that "almost always death must follow the application of blisters" during the eruptive stage of measles. I certainly did not commit myself by making such a statement. I gave it as my opinion, that blisters were rarely necessary during the eruptive stage of measles, and that I had fre-