

*The Elements of Anatomy.* By JONES QUAIN, M.D., Prof. of Anat. and Phys. in the Univ. of London. Third edition, revised and enlarged. London: J. Taylor, 1834. 8vo. pp. 870.

THE copious and easy mode of expression which distinguishes this volume will always render it a most popular elementary work. Our opinion of its correctness has already been twice recorded. It has reached a third edition, and has come anew from the hands of its worthy and able author,—hardly with a nearer approach to perfection, for the facts disclosed by anatomists since it was last reprinted are too few to make any figure in the new edition, if we except the discoveries in the liver made by Mr. KIERNAN (the result of whose labours we shall shortly record with effect in our pages), and the demonstrations of the nerves which are exhibited in the quarto work of Mr. SWAN. The researches of both these gentlemen are embodied in this edition. If we remember rightly, the facts newly made known by Sir ASTLEY COOPER respecting the structure of the thymus gland, and of Mr. TOP in that of the ear, were open to reference before the second edition of Dr. Quain's "Elements" was published. The nature of the work prevents the remarks we have made in noticing the work which heads the preceding article from bearing with the same degree of force on the new edition of the volume now before us.

#### HYDE-PARK CORNER.

DOCTOR RODERICK MACLEOD has received more kicks than halfpence since he was translated from the Quack Asylum at Lisson Grove to the Hospital of Wonders. Very soon after he arrived there, Dr. JOHNSON found occasion to apply his toe to the new comer (earnestly); then young Mr. JOHNSON gave him a kick (timidly); then he got a sad kick from Mr. TUCKER (accidentally); then his quondam crony GREGORY lifted a leg against him (sideways). Two or three rival lecturers are preparing similar indignities (determinately), and now RODERICK and Sir BENJAMIN are about to be either kicked or "cut" by four of their colleagues in the association of lec-

turers, of which RODERICK forms a direct unit, and Sir BENJAMIN one indirect. The prospectus of the *St. George's School*, drawn up this season by Dr. MACLEOD and Mr. HAWKINS, was much clipped of its proportions. It will have to be clipped much more. The publicity lately given by us to the rumour of a new school at Pimlico (to be established purely "*pro bono Pimlico*"), has brought matters in that quarter to open rupture. By the agreement under which the school was originally established, all the lecturers, and all the medical and surgical officers of the hospital, were to form a managing committee for conducting its affairs. Notwithstanding this, however, Mr. STONE and Dr. HENRY DAVIES were, until within a very short time since, totally ignorant of the whole internal machinery of the establishment, never having taken any part in its management. Late circumstances have produced a meeting of all the officers connected with the school, when Dr. WILSON related the entire history of the school, from the period of its translation from Windmill Street to the present time, and concluded by announcing his retirement from the hospital association of lecturers, in order to devote himself solely to his school of anatomy. The shock to the intriguers was great on hearing this declaration, and it was increased on finding that Mr. STONE, Dr. DAVIES, and Mr. WALKER, intended to range themselves with Dr. WILSON. Of course Mr. LANE also is of this latter party.

Sir BENJAMIN BRODIE, we understand, is anxious to disown the project of a new school, and says it is the bantling of a brother officer.

#### SMALL-POX AT DOVER.

*To the Editor of THE LANCET.*

SIR,—I feel assured that you will find room in your valuable Journal for this letter, the subject of which must be regarded by every reflecting mind as a very grave one. The small-pox has made great havoc in this town for some months, and many fresh cases have presented themselves during the past week. I have been called to four or five cases within the last two or three days, and not one of these had been vaccinated. Not one, out of all the cases of small-pox after vaccination, attended by me during the past summer, has died. This is worthy of remark.

It is much to be lamented that the uneducated and ignorant, who are among the most prejudiced against vaccination,

should be allowed to oppose its benign progress; and so long as the quack is permitted to inoculate, so long will small-pox continue to rage. It appears, from what I have learnt, that the mother of the first child attacked with this disease, about four months ago, allowed an old woman to take some virus, which she diligently circulated throughout the town, and thus established this horrid disease, which has raged here so long and so fatally. Surely the time is at hand when the legislature will turn its attention to this subject.

I have the honour to remain, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

W. H. DE LANNOY, Surg. &c.

Dover, Oct. 21, 1834.

#### FOURTH LETTER

TO THE

MEMBERS &c. OF THE R. COL. OF  
SURGEONS IN IRELAND.

*On the Injury done to the College by the  
School.*

GENTLEMEN,—The *object* of the faction and tail in the use of certain phrases, and the arguments, or, rather, the means whereby they endeavour to attain that object, formed briefly the chief subject of my last address; the former was seen to be, to obscure truth, to keep facts from your observation, to excite feeling at the expense of judgment, to stifle discussion which they well know is but the forerunner of truth and knowledge; the latter amounted merely to an argumentum ad hominem, which, after all, is no argument whatever; a wilful perversion of facts, and an ascribing false and absurd motives to persons whom they know incapable of any the least sinister conduct, thus outraging common decency and common sense, and all to secure and forward their selfish object of private monopoly.

If we consider next the *meaning* of their favourite cant term “the College,” &c., we shall find abundant evidence of the same object, the same want of principle, the same violation of candour, truth, and justice, and for similar ends. Language fails in its proper object, and instead of a useful and beneficial instrument, becomes a downright evil, unless words bear a definite and adequate meaning, and be constantly applied in the same signification: but with a very little reflection you will find that you and they use this pregnant term with very different meanings indeed; you honestly and naturally give it its obvious and proper value, that of the numbers, voice, sentiments, and interest, of the profession; with them it signifies neither more nor less than the school.

Here we have a fair specimen of the honesty and fair dealing of this now qualling and sinking crew; under cover of a mean and cunning misnomer, they gain your adhesion and assent, and then dexterously apply it to their own advantage and aggrandizement, but your injury and ruin. The “College” is like the false lights held out by truculent and savage catiffs, to lure the unwary and too credulous mariner to certain shipwreck and death.

The school is their sole object and care; to it everything else is sacrificed, because it contributes to their own mercenary interests; they care not a farthing for college or profession; in the latter they deem themselves secure, the former they use merely

as a piece of machinery subservient to the purposes of their school. This will appear abundantly evident, from even a single glance at any one or all of their steps, resolutions, or measures; the College is, in fact and truth, nothing but the overgrown private school of Messrs Colles and Co., with the power of granting licenses attached, and kept and maintained at your expense; naturally then this respectable company of schoolmasters have but one object, one care—to forward that school, and, of course, to sink all other interests beneath its overwhelming monopoly.

It is astonishing how long men even of reflection and wisdom may be led by words, supposing them really to denote what is represented in dictionaries and vocabularies; thus, under cover of a fair name, put forward by cunning and designing men, how many are the base objects, the vile interests, or the dirty jobs, that may be innocently wrought by the highest in honour, the noblest in intellect, and the purest in honesty! Thus, too, have you innocently forwarded their iniquitous and selfish policy—a policy that fills their coffers but empties yours, that sets your prospects and interests at naught, that has in great measure reduced the profession to its present depressed condition, that promises before long to degrade and annihilate the College, and lower its members to irretrievable nothingness and contempt.

This is the grand error in which we have all indulged so long, the rock on which we split; *the school is the ruin of the College*, the millstone about our necks, from which, unless we be released, and that speedily, we must sink, irrecoverably sink, in the surrounding waters. The school is the incubus that oppresses all our energies, the worthless and mistaken object that distracts all our attention from the most vital concerns, which by it are thus thrown into abeyance and neglect; it is the ill-conditioned and good-for-nothing bantering, upon the nurture and indulgence of which are extravagantly wasted all our substance, all our means, which are thus diverted from their proper objects, those of science and general utility. It is the malignant source of all our jealousies, divisions, and hatred, the disgusting cause of intrigue, cabal, conspiracy, the principle of that shameless system of trade which has been often attempted, sometimes practised, always suspected to exist, between professor and censor. The school it was that involved us in these expensive deputations and overtures to other colleges, which showed a most indecent haste to sink a momentous public principle before mean and selfish interests. Instead of promoting and teaching science, too, it even retards and casts a shade of ridicule upon it; for, not to mention the well-known sneers that are there delivered ex cathedra, it, and its worthy professors, are held forth and blazoned as the highest flight of human genius and intellect, the brightest ornaments of modern science and philosophy; accordingly, the ill-taught and unthinking disciples having progressed a certain time and space in the wakes of these worthies, rest upon their oars, and suppose—happy and tranquil ignorance—that they have mastered the knowledge of the age, and have taken rank among the undying heroes of medical science of the nineteenth century.

When these, and such like, are the bitter and pernicious fruits of this blighting institution, and that they are I think no unprejudiced and reflecting person can deny, surely it is but politic and wise, just and fair, nay, our bounden duty, to demand—aye, insist—if not upon its total abolition, at least to have it put upon an entirely new foundation—and this, even if it did, though it does not, possess intrinsic merit.

These observations are by no means aimed against the advantages—nay, the necessity of a proper systematic course of education; the elementary and undergraduate courses are a very fit and necessary subject for collegiate consideration and enactment, but let it not be the entire and sole business of the College, let not all its energies, *all its income*, all its legislation and attention, be devoted to this solitary and inadequate purpose. While you give elementary education all fitting consideration, place it on its proper subordinate footing. Let it not be said, that the