

*Mr. Hunt's Answer.*

"Manchester-square, Nov. 24, 1845.

"SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt on the 22nd of your letter, dated the 20th instant, which, with the statement accompanying it, I have read with deep attention.

"It is to be regretted that the professors should, under any circumstances, be brought into direct communication with the pupils in matters of money, these matters are far better arranged by a non-professional officer, (as, for example, the secretary of the hospital,) which is, I believe, the practice elsewhere.

"In regard to the present affair, I may observe, that as Mr. Tuson 'ceased to be Anatomical Lecturer on the 9th May last,' a hope may reasonably be entertained that no further question can arise as to his pupils or certificates; and as it appears that the fees, when insisted on by his successor, were paid by Mr. Tuson, this goes far to induce me to abstain from exercising the power which the laws of the hospital confer on its treasurers, of bringing the matter before a Special Board.

"You allege other instances of 'great impropriety on the part of Mr. Tuson in his transactions with his pupils,' and refer to the cases and names of three individuals; I wish to be informed if the circumstances you refer to are such that the medical officers cannot meet Mr. Tuson in consultation, so that the patients are deprived of that union of skill so requisite in difficult cases; if so, there remains no other course than to lay the matter before the governors publicly.

"It must, however, be borne in mind, that the consequences of so doing may be ruinous to some, and injurious to all, as public bodies are composed, may be detrimental to the hospital itself.

"I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

"(Signed) THOMAS HUNT, Treasurer.

"Dr. Seth Thompson."

*From the Medical Officers to the Treasurer.*

"19, Lower Brook-street, Nov. 26, 1845.

"SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your reply to the communication which I had the honour to submit to you on the part of my colleagues and myself. With reference to your inquiry as to the conduct they intend to pursue towards Mr. Tuson, I am authorised by them to state, that when it is necessary for the interests of the patients, the medical officers feel that their duty to the hospital requires that they should meet him.

"As to whether the facts, 'that Mr. Tuson has ceased to be an anatomical lecturer, and that he paid the fees to his successor when the payment was insisted upon,' afford grounds for abstaining from further inquiry, the medical officers do not wish to offer an opinion, as these are not the points to which they attach much importance; they, however, beg to refer the treasurers to the reasons given in their statements for making such a painful disclosure,—namely, that they felt it due to themselves as gentlemen to express their disapprobation of Mr. Tuson's conduct, and to the hospital, to state their conviction, that its interests must be essentially injured thereby.

"I enclose an abstract of the cases of Mr. Hicks, Mr. Lane, and Mr. Batley, before referred to.

"I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

"(Signed) SETH THOMPSON, Sec.

"Thomas Hunt, Esq."

[We omit the statement relating to Messrs. Hicks, Lane, and Batley. These gentlemen were pupils of Mr. Tuson, who had quarrelled with him; and Mr. Tuson's opponents at the hospital had the bad taste to enter upon private matters of dispute between them and Mr. Tuson. One of these gentlemen afterwards wrote an apologetic letter to Mr. Tuson, and another, who married during his pupilage, in a letter to his preceptor, said he had his "eternal hatred" by opposing his marriage. Under these circumstances, we do not think the disputes between Mr. Tuson and these pupils should ever have been brought before the public.—ED. L.]

*The Treasurers' Report to the Medical Officers.*

"Middlesex Hospital, Dec. 4, 1845.

"The treasurers have taken into consideration a communication made to them by the medical officers of certain circumstances connected with the conduct of Mr. Tuson, one of their colleagues; as also a statement of Mr. de Morgan, (including

Mr. Tuson's letter to Dr. Hawkins, under date November 9th, and the statements of Messrs. Hicks, Lane, and Batley,) received by the treasurers, on the 25th ult.; and having had on the 1st inst. a personal interview with Mr. Tuson, report,

"That they unhesitatingly condemn the practice of ante-dating tickets for registration, as one not to be justified by custom or usage, as being calculated to mislead the pupils, and to injure them, and to lower the school in the estimation of the College of Surgeons; and they regret that Mr. Tuson by so doing, and by post-dating and stopping the payment of a draft on his bankers, should have laid himself open to the charge from his colleagues, of great impropriety in his money transactions with his pupils.

"The treasurers consider, that Mr. Tuson's resignation of the lectureship on the 9th of May, may have been induced by a desire to avoid the publicity of these irregularities, and they regard the tickets granted by him on the 31st October, as a part (and they hope the last part) of the same system, as to which they have expressed their disapprobation.

"The treasurers, appreciating the motives of forbearance of the medical officers, in the painful position in which they state themselves to have been placed from time to time, are of opinion that no further proceedings are advisable under existing circumstances.

"Signed,

"ROBERT VAUGHAN RICHARDS,  
"THOMAS HUNT."

*Extracts from the Minutes of the Weekly Board of the Middlesex Hospital.*

"Dec. 30, 1845.

"George Cottam, Esq., read a letter, received from Campbell de Morgan, Esq.; ordered that the letter from Campbell de Morgan, Esq., be entered upon the minutes.

"17, Manchester-street, Dec. 29, 1845.

"Dear Sir,—I have no hesitation in complying with your request, to put you, as a governor of the hospital, in possession of a brief statement of the circumstances to which I alluded, at the weekly board, on Tuesday week last.

"I have already laid before my colleagues a more detailed account of these circumstances, and it, together with their opinion upon them and upon other transactions of a similar nature has been brought by them under the notice of the president. The facts are these:—

"1st. That Mr. Tuson having ceased to be an anatomical lecturer in May last, and being in consequence divested of the right to exercise any act as such, did, on the 31st October following, sign two cards of admission to the anatomical classes, which he dated back to the 10th and 14th March previous.

"2nd. That at the time this act was done, the pupils receiving these cards were not members of the anatomical classes.

"3rd. That these pupils effected registration at the College of Surgeons by means of these cards.

"4th. That this act was done without the knowledge of his former colleagues or of myself, who was his successor. I leave you at liberty to make such use of this statement as you may think desirable for the interest of the hospital.

"I am, &c.,

"(Signed)

"George Cottam, Esq."

"CAMPBELL DE MORGAN.

"Ordered, that the weekly board be specially summoned for Tuesday next, to take into consideration the charges made by Mr. de Morgan against Mr. Tuson.

"Ordered, that in addition to the specific charges produced against Mr. Tuson by Mr. Cottam to-day, the correspondence of the medical officers, with the treasurers, be produced before the appointed special board, and that copies of the said correspondence be sent to Mr. Tuson as early as possible in the meantime."

"Weekly Board, Jan. 6, 1846.

"The board having been specially summoned to consider the charges made by Mr. de Morgan against Mr. Tuson, and those charges having been read, together with the communication and correspondence thereupon between the medical officers and the treasurers,

"It was moved by Dr. Merriman, and seconded by Edward Brewster, Esq., That the board having heard the documents ordered on Tuesday last to be submitted to this special board, does now proceed to the order of the day:—

For the motion	...	...	...	...	14
Against the motion	...	...	...	...	19
Majority	...	...	...	...	5

"After further discussion it was resolved, that this special