

reference to the new curriculum of the Apothecaries' Company. I have never concurred in the taste or justice of your attacks upon the Court of Examiners; and I believe your ingenuity would fail to disprove what I very confidently affirm,—that the entire improvement effected in the system of medical education has been wrought exclusively by the Apothecaries' Act, faulty and imperfect as I admit it is. Among other consequences far from beneficial to the interests of students may be reckoned the following; and, as they are inevitable, perhaps the Court of Examiners may vindicate their claims to absolute wisdom by revising their manifesto:—

1st. Detention in town three years, being one year more than is demanded by the present regulations. This may be fairly set down as an addition of one third to the expenses of medical education.

2nd. Privation of the relaxation essential to the restoration of most students after the exhausting effects of labour during the winter session.

3rd. Increased charge on some of the Lectures, in consequence of the increased number required by the "Court."

4th. Insufficient time for profitably attending some of the classes.

These examples are sufficient to show that the arrangements are mischievous and incomplete; and prove that, before any violent change in the course of medical education be resolved on, the *only* competent judges of the necessity and the *mode*, i. e. the Lecturers, should be consulted. At least one half of the students who complete their education do so at a sacrifice by their friends, and this ill-conceived plan will draw still more upon resources already too often scanty.

One mode of evading the mischief, for a year at least, is for all pupils who have not yet commenced attendance upon lectures, meaning to do so next October, to enter at once to the respective classes. By commencing the courses *before* October, they keep without the pale of the newest law from Blackfriars. I am, sir, &c.,

A LECTURER.

London, May 6th, 1835.

LETTER FROM MR. WATSON.

TO THE EDITOR.—Sir,—The following letter publicly interests the pupils, especially the last clause, in reference to summer lectures. I therefore send it to you. I am, sir, your very obedient,

G. D. DERMOTT.

May 6th, 1835.

"To G. D. Dermott, Esq.

"Sir,—The new curriculum is applicable to such students only as shall commence their attendance on lectures on or after the 1st of October next, and is not intended to interfere in any manner with those who have already attended, or who may commence their attendance before the next winter session. The Court has at all times been careful to avoid making regulations which might affect students who had begun their *public* studies. This curriculum has been published thus early that it might find its way into the country by those students who are now leaving London, and by whose means it might be communicated to their young friends who might be about to begin their public course of study in October next. The summer course of lectures which you are now about to commence, will be recognised on the old system, and will continue to be recognised as respects those students who are now pursuing their studies. I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

"JOHN WATSON.

"43, Berners-street,
May 5th, 1835."

APOTHECARIES' COMPANY.—*To the Editor of the Lancet.*—Sir, I beg leave to call attention to the scandalous manner in which the Apothecaries' Company treat some of their licentiates, especially those practising in Wales. More than nine months ago the Apothecaries' Company were written to by three medical men, claiming protection against a person who is practising without having obtained the license of the company, or having ever attended a single course of lectures, and evidence of his so practising was forwarded to Mr. Upton, their clerk, after having first obtained from five members of the legal profession, an opinion that it was quite sufficient for his conviction if acted on. To this day, however, no proceedings have been commenced, nor has any further notice been taken of it by the Company, although informed at the time that any deficiency in the evidence could be obtained, as there was no lack of cases which could be cited, the person also acting as the medical attendant on clubs constituted under an Act of Parliament which expressly requires that an *Apothecary* shall be appointed to attend the members. Hoping through the medium of your valuable journal to attract the notice of some influential member of the Apothecaries' Company to this gross inattention on the part of that body, and to the encroachments daily made upon