

## BIOGRAPHY.

CHARLES TUCKER, ESQ.

DIED, lately, at Alphington, near Exeter, Charles Tucker, Esq. staff-surgeon.—This gentleman had collected a rich museum of antiques; which, among other curiosities, contained an ancient arrow-head, found by Lord Byron on the plains of Marathon, and by him presented to Mr. Tucker. He had brought from Italy many beautiful pieces of sculpture of Canova's workmanship. Of these, one was the Plateau, intended by Napoleon as a present to Maria Louisa. This consisted of a model of the Parthenon, cars of Hector and Achilles, temples of Jupiter and Apollo, and various other elegant designs. Also, he had a most admirable museum of wax models, exhibiting a great part of human anatomy, in a manner so exquisitely perfect and beautiful, as to delight the scientific by their accuracy, and the artist by their perfection of execution.

There were fancifully disposed in Mr. Tucker's garden, valuable antique vases, and remains of exquisitely-wrought Sarcophagi. The hope of one day seating himself among these invaluable possessions, and of calling about him the men of talent and of taste to enjoy them with him, had formed the polar star of his varied life. His scheme was, however, very imperfectly realized, owing to the miscalculations of a too sanguine mind; but even after curtailments he possessed such an assemblage of objects, calculated to feed the mind and excite the imagination, as few, even of those who delight in such, are able to acquire. Those who knew Mr. Tucker in private, have seen a perfect example of what is graceful and gentlemanly in demeanour, and have felt what is the charm of "personal converse and wit." He was deep in information, elegant and bold in fancy, fluent and powerful in language: illustrating his most original ideas with stores of anecdotes, which, as they were the produce of various languages, ancient and modern, were almost inexhaustible. As a practitioner, Mr. Tucker was eminently scientific; a thorough hater of humbug and mere pretension, and, as a necessary consequence, a friend and admirer of a free medical press, and of every thing liberal, talented, and useful. Why, it may be asked, so much about Mr. Tucker? Had the inquirer known him, his query had been, Why so little? If he was not eminent, he deserved to be so, more than four-fifths of those so esteemed; and it was to me quite intolerable, that one so gifted should die in that silence which befits the death of mediocrity.

W. C.

London, Nov. 9th, 1828.

## RE-PRODUCTION OF THE LENS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Some time back, seeing in your valuable Journal an account of the re-production of the crystalline lens, after being extracted, I was led to try the experiment. The result I now send you; and, should you deem it worthy a place in THE LANCET, I should feel obliged by your inserting it.

August 12, 1828, I extracted the lens of a half-grown rabbit. On the 24th of September following, the animal was killed, and, occupying the position of the original lens, was found a new lens, of the *general form*, but of a *much softer consistence*. It may be right to state, the rabbit had the faculty of vision with the eye. I remain, yours, &c.

HENRY DAY.

21st Oct. 1828.

## LONDON MEDICAL SOCIETY.

November 10, 1828.

Dr. HASLAM, President, in the Chair.

POINT OF ORDER—LIBERTY OF THE MEDICAL PRESS—MR. AMESBURY'S COMPLETE CURE OF A FRACTURE OF THE NECK OF THE THIGH-BONE.

THE Minutes of the two last meetings having been read:—

THE PRESIDENT said, that he did not consider himself taking a part in the discussions of the Society, though, at the commencement of this evening's business, he felt himself imperatively called upon to rise to a point of order. The Society had met last week—a general meeting "for receiving a report of the state of the Society;" no report, however, was prepared for the information of its members, (cries of hear, hear,) and, therefore, he had been under the necessity of calling upon the officers of the Institution, respectively, to state what they knew of the Society's affairs; still this was not a report. A report, he presumed, was to be considered something delivered to the Society in writing, delivered to it in the most substantial form; and he should have apprehended, that if such a report had been, as it ought to have been, duly made, it would have comprehended, first, the specific accounts of the treasurer, next the communications which the secretary for foreign correspondence might have had to bring forward, and likewise whatever the librarian might have had to disclose. The report not having been made, he conceived the purpose of the last meeting had not been fulfilled, and it was for the members to act upon this suggestion, as they should think right. (Applause.)