

F. Gristock, Esq.: 6 oz. ditto.
 E. Watts, Esq.: Lint and strapping.
 T. Trask, Esq.: 4lb. of lint.
 Sums of money: D. B. Hanbury, Esq., £2 2s.; C. Deane, Esq., £2 2s.; Messrs. Morson and Co., £2 2s.; Miss Halliday, £1; W. T. Cooper, Esq., £1 1s.; J. Orp, Esq., 10s.; A Reader, 5s.; — Noble, Esq., 10s.

POST-PARTEM HÆMORRHAGE.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In your last number, Mr. Spender, of Bath, speaks of the good effect of iced water injected into the uterine cavity in uncontrollable post-partem hæmorrhage, as recommended by Dr. Tyler Smith. I will briefly narrate an instance confirmatory of the benefit of this description of treatment.

In the summer of 1843, during the time that I was acting as resident physician's-assistant in the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, a patient nearly at the full term of gestation was taken, though somewhat unexpectedly, in labour. The pains came on in the ordinary manner, the presentation was natural, and in the course of two or three hours the head was born. In a few minutes subsequent to the expulsion of the child a most frightful flooding set in! Without the loss of a moment I introduced my hand, took away the placenta, and endeavoured to promote uterine contraction. Cold water was poured from a height upon, and external pressure applied to, the abdomen; but still the flooding continued, and I thought, despite of every effort, she would bleed to death. Recollecting there was ice in the hospital, it was readily procured. I took as large a piece as I could conveniently introduce, and placed it in the uterine cavity, and to the delight of all present it arrested the terrible current. When it had melted, another piece was introduced, and thus a coagulum was formed and contraction excited. She recovered slowly, but without an unfavourable symptom. It was unquestionable that the ice saved the poor woman's life.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
 Tunbridge Wells, July, 1860. JOHN R. WARDELL, M.D.

THE DIFFICULTIES OF A MINOR.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In your last week's impression, there appears a letter from Mr. J. V. Laverick, of Hinderwell, in which that gentleman has thought proper to conjoin my name with those of others in this neighbourhood, in order, I presume, to vindicate his (in my opinion) unprecedented conduct, although he asserts to the contrary. I need not apologize, but at once make known to your readers how matters stand.

A little more than twelve months ago, I succeeded to a practice at Lofthouse, and soon became acquainted with the author of the letter alluded to, who subsequently possessed himself of certain credentials, and not being satisfied with a fair prospect of patronage in his own district, endeavoured surreptitiously to supplant me in mine, a distance of five miles from Hinderwell, by offering to attend my clubs at fees much below the sum usually given, and midwifery cases connected with the clubs at 5s. per case.

This explanation, brief as it is, will, I trust, suffice to exonerate me from being actuated by any other motive than to maintain the dignity of that profession of which I am but a poor member.

Upon referring to the regulations of the several examining boards, I find that it is essential that each applicant for honours be of age, and knowing which, and that he had intentionally evaded one of the rules, I would ask Mr. Laverick how he dare presume to make known his supposed wrongs through the medium of THE LANCET; and, further, would remind him, that the difficulty which appears so trifling and temporary, may probably be of more permanent duration, as by Clauses 38 and 39 of the Medical Act, I am taught that if ever he is allowed to resume his titles it will be in consequence of the leniency of the Medical Council.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Lofthouse, July, 1860. FRED. COLLINS, L.R.C.P. Edin.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—On looking over your journal of last week, I am rather astonished to see a letter from Mr. J. V. Laverick, wherein my name is mentioned. What I did in making known Mr. Laverick's minority, I consider perfectly justifiable, not only to myself, but to the profession in general. The conduct of Mr.

J. V. Laverick towards me since my arrival in this locality has been anything but that of a gentleman. It is a well-known fact he has insulted me on every side, without the slightest provocation, and done his utmost to prevent my succeeding in establishing a private practice, which paltry attempt has most openly failed.

Some sixteen months ago I was sent here by the Messrs. Palmers and Co., of Jarrow, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, to take in charge the accidents at their large Iron-Stone Mines, which in itself was made a sufficiency for me, independent of any other practice, and which I have no doubt, from all I can hear from parties who have known Mr. Laverick from childhood, exceeds in itself any private practice he can have formed.

In conclusion, I must apologise for taking up so much of your space and time; but after the manner my name has been handled by one so thoroughly lost to all gentlemanly feeling and medical etiquette, I consider it my duty to trouble you with this brief explanation.—I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

Hinderwell, near Whitby, July, 1860. HENRY DODD, M.R.C.S.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I have great hesitation in taking any notice of the letter in THE LANCET of last Saturday under the above heading, and signed by John V. Laverick. I certainly should have treated it as beneath notice, only, as your valuable periodical has been made the medium of conveying the most glaring falsehoods, I seem obliged to take some notice of the young man. Without entering fully upon the worthless production, I might with the greatest propriety have observed that, as it is a combination of known untruths, it is not worth my observation. However, as your readers may expect some reply, and as it seems John V. Laverick courts publicity, I may as well, in dissecting his letter, make a few observations respecting its writer.

Some time ago, I was induced to take John V. Laverick after the manner of an apprentice. He was to stay with me five years. After about three years had passed, during which his conduct was much the same as at present, his father wished him to go to Scotland to attend lectures. I did not object, for I hoped mixing in more gentlemanly society would improve his manners, and also make him of more use to myself afterwards, it being understood he was to make up the time after he had done. This he never attended to. Being in ill health at the time, I was put to great expenses in having assistants during his absence, both in salary and board; neither was this made up to me. Finding he was going to locate himself in a village close by, and being aware he would soon evince improper feelings, I consented to take him as a partner. A deed was prepared, but, owing to my deciding to leave here just afterwards, it was never acted upon, and was destroyed. I now feel thankful the glittering though delusive representations did cause me to leave at the time, for it will be evident how things would have gone on. And, further, I have never, either before leaving or since my return, received anything at all from him or his father towards any portion of the practice. As to age, this did not concern me; indeed, I did not know his exact age until a few weeks ago. He states I engaged two medical men to assist in informing the Boards. Now the best way will be, for any one who wishes, to inquire at the Colleges into the truthfulness of this also. The disrespectful conduct of the young man towards myself is so well known in this part, that no comment is required. Even last May he sent me a most abusive and offensive note (too bad for insertion, or I would have enclosed it). Last month and this, when I have met him on the roads, his language has been most vulgar and unbecoming. Yet I passed along, made no reply, and was going to treat all as beneath notice, only I found that THE LANCET had been made the tool of one who, I trust, when he reaches maturity, will act more rationally and truthfully. I might observe, a little more gravity on more serious points might be better, for the sequel may, after all, prove this is not a "trifling difficulty"—"only temporary." It seems to me to be no small matter to trifle with the rules and the officers of Examining Boards. In conclusion, I beg to state I shall not reply to any more of Mr. Laverick's letters in THE LANCET; but should there be anything further, or any more annoyance, I shall at once place the whole in the hands of my solicitors; for I consider such matters as far below any professional man's mind, and too coarse and unfit for any respectable medical publication.—I am, Sir, yours very respectfully,

Hinderwell, Yorkshire, July, 1860. ROBERT DOWELL, M.R.C.S.

* * We cannot continue this correspondence.—ED. L.