

SIR H. HALFORD'S PUFF OF MR. BATTLEY.

*To the Editor of THE LANCET.*

SIR,—The circular letter of recommendation written by Sir Henry Halford, in favour of Mr. Battley the Chemist, *apparently* addressed only "to the Professors of the several Schools of Medicine in the Country," has within my knowledge received a wide circulation among the provincial surgeons, as well as those resident in and near London, evidently with a view to impress on the profession, that drugs and chemicals can only be procured genuine and pure from the laboratory in Fore-street, which I submit is a gross libel on the Society of Apothecaries, and on all the druggists and practical chemists throughout the kingdom, who have hitherto, with credit and advantage to themselves, supplied the private surgeons, public institutions, and retail shops, in London and the provinces, to a *legitimate* share of which trade no one would deny Mr. Battley. However, I deem it too great an assumption, even for "The President of the Royal College of Physicians" to insinuate, that Mr. Battley is *more eminent* and honest in chemical science than his numerous contemporaries; and I also feel assured that Mr. Battley would have better consulted his own respectability as a tradesman, if he had contented himself with the mere possession of such a *mark of distinction*, for I much doubt whether the learned Baronet possesses sufficient experience in the various chemical preparations, to warrant his implied attack upon the skill and honesty of Mr. Battley's competitors. The transaction has a very JOB-ish appearance. I am, Sir, your humble servant,

PAUL FAIRPLAY.

## "THE NEW LONDON DISPENSATORY,

*Containing Translations of the Pharmacopœia Londinensis and Magendie's Formulaire, with an Appendix, by THOMAS COX, M.D., and CHARLES WILSON GREGORY, M.D. 1 vol. 8vo."*

*To the Editor of THE LANCET.*

SIR,—I had made arrangements for publishing a *correct* translation of the Pharmacopœia Londinensis, together with the Formulaire of Magendie, but a similar work having appeared (published by Mr. Cox, Borough), I have relinquished my intention of publishing.

In the preface, explanatory of the intention of this work, it is stated that "if an apology be necessary for placing Magendie's Formulary in connexion with the London Pharmacopœia, we would merely refer to

the omission, in the last-mentioned work, of those remedies which the celebrated French physician has so successfully employed and recommended, the majority of which have abided the test of experience."

With regard to the Pharmacopœia, the pharmaceutical chemist will find much valuable information. In the Formulaire we have an article on indigenous morphine, and its mode of preparation, which appears to me of great importance. The analyses of several varieties of ipecacuanha by Pelletier, develop information of the highest importance to medical practitioners. Several new preparations are added to this work, which I have not met with in other translations, and the addition of kreosote and hydriodate of iron render the work deserving of the highest commendation. I remain, most respectfully, Sir, your most obedient servant,

G. WHIPPLE.

7, Upper Gloucester-st., Clerkenwell,  
October 8, 1835.

## NORTH LONDON HOSPITAL.

## LITHOTOMY.

WILLIAM WALKER, aged 80 years, of Mulbury, in Hertfordshire, was admitted October 7th, under the care of Mr. LISTON. He states that he has suffered from the usual symptoms of stone in the bladder for the last fifteen years, but had never been examined by sounding until about three weeks ago. His general health is good, but he experiences very great pain in the region of the bladder, and cannot retain his urine, which is constantly dribbling away from him as fast as it is secreted by the kidneys. On the 8th of October a sound was passed, and the presence of a stone detected. Ordered a draught of the solution of muriate of morphia.

10. Mr. LISTON remarked to-day that he had to deal with a very unfavourable case on this occasion, the patient being so far advanced in life, and the stone or stones being of considerable size, but that he was induced to operate from the fact that almost all the very old men on whom he had operated had made good recoveries. He instanced some patients who had been cut by him at the age of 80, and who had lived for several years afterwards in great comfort. On the same day on which these remarks were made Mr. LISTON performed lithotomy on the patient.

Having been secured in the usual manner, the curved staff was introduced, and the presence of a stone seemingly of considerable size was detected. The bladder was reached by the third incision. On introducing his finger, the operator had at first