the acknowledged value of our services; and, moreover, that all are not equally fortunate; and the sum that would be esteemed a good remuneration by one, may with great justice be regarded by another as very inadequate. Making allowance for these circumstances, much consideration, and many calculations upon the produce of my own practice, lead me to the conclusion, that the average value of a general practitioner's time may be fairly stated at 7s. 6d. per hour. I will therefore take this as the standard by which to regulate all my calculations, whether applied to the present system, or to that which I hope ere long to see universally prevailing under the authority of law; and although there may be some difficulty, under the present system, of always bringing home the average amount under that of reduced prices for medicine, and a constant and consistent charge for time and services, there will be a much greater facility and certainty displayed. Hence the desirability of keeping the isolated character of medical science constantly in view, as if that were the only article to be supplied, disregarding entirely the profit upon medicines as a recompense for time. This I hold to be the correct principle to guide us in all our calculations on the subject of remuneration, and the first principle that should be acknowledged, and acted upon, in any bill that may be brought before parliament. It does not imply that the apothecary shall necessarily discontinue to supply medicines to his patients, but makes it imperative that if he does so, it must be at a rate consistent with the value of the things themselves, and with power to recover 7s. 6d. per hour for time. It will presently be made manifest that medicines may be supplied at very much less than the present price.

Medical science, unassociated with the sale of medicines, is acknowledged by the public to be of great value, and has hitherto produced a good fee, or has been altogether gratuitous. That mighty power, public opinion, which is often more powerful than law, has established several orders of medical men; amongst which the general practitioner stands conspicuous. The public do not inquire in what respects the orders differ in their amount of qualification; the general practitioner is looked upon as good enough for ordinary occasions, and being most commonly used, his services are valued, not so much according to their comparative worth, as according to the supply and the ability of the public to pay. Hence it is to be inferred, that the present rate of remuneration is not far from the amount which in fairness it ought to be. It would be in vain for the general practitioner to calculate upon the same rate of payment as is awarded to his superior in public estimation; but he has a right to expect (being the working doctor of the whole community) a remuneration for his services, from all, in proportion to the mean value of his time, and the means of the different grades of which society is composed.

In proportion, therefore, as it is desirable that he should be paid for his services by the whole community, so is it necessary that a scale of fees must vary according to its gradations. One item alone may properly be valued the same to all,—I allude to the charge for mileage,—whether in the service of the rich or the poor, the expense of providing it, and the time consumed is the same, and will admit of no equitable abatement on the one hand, nor

does it require increase on the other. The ordinary rate at which practitioners in the country are paid for journeys does not exceed, scarcely averages, 1s. 6d. per mile; and that sum may be safely considered the proper charge; therefore I adopt it as a standard. A table of fees, then, which it would be desirable to establish under the authority of law, according to the principles I advocate, would stand thus:—

For every mile we travel out from home, whether in the service of rich or poor	s. d. 1 6
For every attendance upon a pauper	1 0
For bleeding a pauper, or dressing a wound, not associated with compound fracture, or other very serious case	1 0
For attendance in the family of a labourer, not a pauper	1 6
For ditto, in the family of a small tradesman	2 6
For ditto, ditto, a grade higher	3 6
For ditto, ditto, first class, within three miles	5 0
For ditto, ditto, exceeding three miles, not exceeding five miles	7 6
For ditto, ditto, exceeding five miles	10 0
For extraordinary attendance at the rate of per hour	7 6

Having thus presented a scale of remuneration, which may be greatly extended, for the consideration of the profession, I will in the next place, endeavour most fully to illustrate its mode of operation, and exemplify its superior advantage to the present system. I will also make its practicability apparent, by showing that while it promises to secure to us a reasonable, equitable, and honourable remuneration, it will add no additional burden, but prove a real benefit, to the public. But to pursue the subject further, on the present occasion, would extend my paper to a greater length than might suit the convenience of your pages, I will, therefore, reserve what I have farther to communicate for another occasion.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A Member of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association.

PROVINCIAL

MEDICAL & SURGICAL JOURNAL.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1841.

IN a recent number of this journal we presented our readers with a brief record of the several provincial schools of medicine now existing in England, and endeavoured to point out a few of the advantages likely to accrue to the pupil from the establishment of these institutions. It is our present intention to offer a few remarks on the

system of medical education adopted on the other side of the Channel, and on the means afforded the student of acquiring a competent knowledge of his profession in the Dublin Schools of Medicine.

In the Irish metropolis there are four licensing bodies—the University, the King and Queen's College of Physicians, the College of Surgeons, and the Apothecaries' Hall. The first two, though conferring separate degrees in medicine, have, in some respects, a community of interests, and form what is termed "the School of Physic in Ireland." In this faculty the professorships of Anatomy and Surgery, of Chemistry, of Botany, and the Regius Professorship of Physic, are attached to the University, the remainder to the King and Queen's College of Physicians. In addition to those above mentioned, the University established some years ago a professorship of Natural History, now filled by Dr. Whitley Stokes, and within the last twelvemonth, a lectureship of Chemistry, in connexion with their recently-founded School of Engineering, which they have conferred on Dr. Apjohn. Attendance on the lectures of these last two is not included among the requirements for their medical degree. The Board of Trinity College have lately introduced an important improvement into the mode of conducting their medical examinations, by increasing the number of the examiners, and by rendering what was formerly little better than a ceremony, a practical test of professional acquirement. On the other hand, we conceive that they have lowered the respectability of their degree, by abolishing the necessity of a previous graduation in Arts,—their latest regulations declaring that the degree of M.B. will be granted by the University of Dublin, after four years' study, with or without previous graduation in Arts.

During the past year, two professorships in the School of Physic have become vacant; that of Practice of Physic, by the much-lamented death of Dr. Lendrick; and that of the Institutes of Medicine, by the resignation of Dr. Graves; Dr. Greene has succeeded to the former, and Dr. Law to the latter, professorship. In making these appointments, the College of Physicians have honestly and judiciously discharged a very important duty, and we congratulate them on the selection which they have made.

The College of Surgeons in Ireland form a very numerous and influential body. Into the history of their political constitution we do not at present intend to enter; we may, however, state that, as in similar corporations, the great majority of those holding its license possess no voice in its councils, a comparative few engrossing the power of electing

the various officers and courts of examiners, arranging and determining all questions of finance, and framing regulations for the education of the pupil, and for admission to the license.

The bye-laws relating to education and to the examination of candidates for letters testimonial, require a course of study as ample as that of any other college; but whether sufficiently so, especially as regards the period of time employed in study, we think admits of doubt. Among the general regulations it is enacted, that the candidate for letters testimonial shall be publicly examined on two several days in anatomy and physiology, on the practice of medicine and surgery, and on any other branch of medical science, and shall perform such surgical operations and dissections, and explain such anatomical preparations, as the court may require. And, secondly, that the candidate, being a registered pupil, shall be allowed to pass the first of the two days' examination above mentioned, on anatomy and physiology, on laying before the court of censors certificates of attendance on specified courses of lectures, showing that he has been engaged in the study of his profession for not less than three winter sessions in Dublin, London, Edinburgh, or Glasgow; and that such candidate shall be admissible to the second day's or final examination on the other subjects above enumerated, when he shall have laid before the court of censors all the documents required by the bye-laws relative to "qualifications for the letters testimonial."

By these regulations, the first day's examination, which usually comprises anatomy, physiology, and pathological anatomy, may take place at the termination of the third year of study; and as the college require certificates showing that the candidate has been engaged in the study of his profession for not less than four years, the pupil is enabled to employ his whole time, and devote his entire attention, during the last year of his novitiate, solely to the more practical departments of surgery and practice of medicine. How far this novel plan will realize the favourable anticipations of its proposers, experience must decide; it seems, however, to have met with the approbation of the pupils, who appear to think that their dangers are diminished by the distant separation of their days of trial.

Although we do not for a moment deny the propriety of judicious reforms in medical education, nor refuse our assent to properly-matured plans of improvement in a subject of such vast importance, yet we conceive that uncertain legislation is equally injurious in a college as in the senate. Within a very few years the entire system of education in the Irish College of Surgeons has under-

gone repeated and extensive alterations, and but few permanent improvements: half-yearly examinations were established, we believe, on good grounds,—only to be relinquished, we suppose, on grounds equally good. Separate courts of examination in pharmacy and midwifery, with appropriate requirements, were then instituted, and their certificates declared a necessary qualification for the diploma; these courts are still in being, but it is now optional with the pupil to avail himself of them; and, for our own part, we are at a loss to discover any good reason for their continuance. The “latest improvement” we have already adverted to, by which the two days of examination, which were formerly within a week of each other, may now be separated to an almost indefinite period, according to the wish or convenience of the candidate. Such frequent changes, and the consequent uncertainty to which they give rise, exert an unfavourable influence on medical education, and become a cause of complaint and a source of suspicion on the part of the pupils. We trust, however, that an efficient medical reform will, in due time, put an end to these and all other anomalies.

The advertisements for this winter session exhibit a list of seven medical schools in the city of Dublin, all conducted by skilful and experienced teachers. At the termination of the last season nine were in existence, but two have since been closed. The survivors are, the School of Physic in Ireland, the school attached to the College of Surgeons, and the following private schools:—the Park-street School of Medicine, the Richmond Hospital School, the two Peter-street Schools, and the School of the Apothecaries’ Company in Cecilia-street. The School of the College of Surgeons includes professorships of all the branches of medical science required as qualifications for letters testimonial; and, in addition to these, the college some time since established a professorship of Natural Philosophy, and endowed it with a permanent salary. This chair is occupied by Dr. Apjohn, the present professor of Chemistry in the college, a gentleman in every way well qualified to fill it. This, however, is not all that the College of Surgeons have done for the advancement of science and the benefit of the profession; they have lately instituted a professorship of political medicine, with a salary, we believe, of 100*l.* per annum attached; this will prove, no doubt, a very acceptable berth for any one of their professors, whose original chair has become a sinecure.

The election is to take place on the 13th of December next, and candidates are invited, *by advertisement*, to send in their qualifications to

the college “on or before Thursday, the 2nd of December.” The college, perhaps, intend, by this agreeable farce, to accommodate their generosity to the provisions of their charter, but we believe it to be notorious to the members of the profession in Dublin, that the professorship in question was founded expressly for the occupation and pecuniary advantage of a particular individual.

The private schools of medicine in Dublin are most of them well conducted, and under the superintendence of able and efficient teachers. Their numbers, however, far exceed the demand, an evil that has arisen partly from the diminution in the ranks of the pupils, and partly from the too great facility of establishing these institutions. We say an evil, for assuredly it is one which can lead to dissensions and jealousies among teachers, and which could induce members of an honourable calling to descend to unprofessional means of recruiting their classes by puffing, by underselling each other, and by holding out improper inducements to pupils to allure their companions to some particular school. This demoralizing system has been checked, and we hope abolished, by a coalition of the teachers in Dublin, formed at the commencement of the last session, “for the purpose of amending the system hitherto pursued in conducting the medical classes.” The result of their meetings was a declaration signed by most of the teachers, voluntarily pledging themselves, on word of honour, to adhere strictly to the resolutions they had passed, and the regulations they had framed. By these resolutions, the minimum fee for the several courses was fixed, and a committee of representatives from each school formed, to correct and prevent any irregular proceedings on the part of either teachers or pupils.

As a medical school, Dublin has long been celebrated, not only for the bright names that have appeared among its teachers, but for the unusual facilities presented to the pupil of studying every branch of his profession under the most favourable circumstances. Its hospitals, though not containing so many beds as some of the large London and Parisian institutions, are of a size admirably adapted to the purposes of education. The well-arranged though limited number of cases, the universally-adopted method of clinical instruction, and the close attention paid to pathology and pathological anatomy in all, render them most efficient schools of surgery and medicine. To these we may add another advantage, easily appreciable by medical students, that the fees for attendance are adjusted on an extremely moderate scale. The merits of the Dublin Lying-in Hospital are too well known over Great Britain to re-

quire any eulogium from us ; and, under its present master, its high character is not likely to suffer any deterioration.

But it is chiefly as a school of anatomy that Dublin has attained, and still deserves, its prominent position ; for many years it was without a rival in these kingdoms, and we believe its supply of subjects for anatomical purposes was, at the time we refer to, unequalled by any school in Europe, with the exception of Paris. Although the operation of the Anatomy Act has considerably reduced its former overflowing abundance, the present legitimate sources of supply have hitherto proved fully equal to the demand ; and we have no hesitation in affirming, that were the intentions of the legislature fully carried out in the Dublin workhouses, the schools of medicine in that city would not have reason to feel a shadow of regret at the introduction of that statute. As the law now stands, with all its disadvantages increased by the timidity or morbid humanity of the workhouse guardians, the deposit for subjects, as fixed by the committee of teachers, amounts to only thirty shillings for a full course of dissections ; and a portion of this sum is uniformly returned to the pupil at the termination of the session.

Though not immediately connected with the schools, yet, as operating most beneficially upon the students, we may mention the numerous societies existing in Dublin for the promotion of medical science. Some of these, as the Dublin Medico-Chirurgical and Obstetrical Societies, have been instituted by the pupils themselves, with the encouragement and under the superintendence of their seniors ; and others, as the Surgical and Pathological Societies, have been established by the physicians and surgeons of Dublin, and are open to the pupils under proper regulations.

The limits of a brief notice, like the present, will not admit of our entering so fully as we could wish, or as might be expected, into the details of our subject : we must, consequently, omit much that is worthy of remark, and much that merits our commendation : we believe, however, we have adduced sufficient evidence to prove that, although the Irish College of Surgeons has its imperfections—and what human institution is without them?—Dublin still holds a deservedly high rank among the medical schools of Great Britain.

DR. PAYNE AND DR. CARPENTER.

WE have been requested by Dr. Forbes to give insertion to the following paragraph.

Dr. Martyn Payne of New York, in a pamphlet

recently published by him, and extensively circulated (gratuitously) both in this country and America, having accused Dr. William Carpenter of Bristol of plagiarism from Dr. Channing, in a review of John Hunter, published some years since in the British and Foreign Medical Review, I feel it due to Dr. Carpenter to state thus publicly, and in the most unequivocal terms, that Dr. Carpenter did *not* write the review in question.

JOHN FORBES.

London, Nov. 20, 1841.

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

Tuesday, Nov. 9, 1841.

Dr. WILLIAMS, President.

Case of Cyanosis depending upon Transposition of the Aorta and Pulmonary Artery. By Dr. Walshe, Professor of Pathological Anatomy in University College.

THIS was a case in which the origins of the aorta and pulmonary artery were transposed ; the former arising from the right ventricle, the latter from the left ; while the connexions of the venous trunks, pulmonary and cavæ, were natural. The coronary arteries were given off in the usual manner immediately above the sigmoid valves of the aorta ; the ductus arteriosus pervious, and wide enough to admit a good-sized probe, communicated in the ordinary way with the aorta and pulmonary artery ; the foramen ovale open ; the ventricular septum not perforated ; the walls of the right ventricle were from two to four times as thick as those of the left ; the aorta and its branches constantly circulated black blood, with the exception of the extremely small quantity of red fluid carried from the pulmonary artery by the ductus arteriosus ; the pulmonary artery and its ramifications constantly circulated florid blood, with the exception of the small quantity of black, which may have found its way through the foramen ovale from the right into the left auricle ; the viscera were rather larger than in naturally-conformed individuals of the same age ; the heart was even hypertrophous ; yet the later viscus was nourished by venous blood only ; the former by blood very slightly oxygenised.

The subject of this malformation lived to the age of ten months ; a much longer period than any of the subjects of the few similar cases on record.

On the Operation for the Cure of Hydrocele by a retained Injection of Diluted Tincture of Iodine. By J. R. Martin, Esq., formerly Surgeon of the Native Hospital, Calcutta.

In consequence of an accident of a serious nature, which occurred several years ago to a native, in the Calcutta Hospital, upon whom the usual mode of treating hydrocele was adopted, namely, that by port-wine injection, the author, in the next case, substituted tincture of iodine for the