us—to refuse us constitutional rights and an adequate remuneration for our services.

It has been remarked, that medical men are imbued only with a small degree of ambition for political power; and at the present time, no body of men, equally numerous, profess less, for our present agitation is purely of a professional nature; and, perhaps, this remark is in some degree just; for late appeals to the House of Commons, made on our behalf, have not been entertained with even a decorous degree of attention in houses very thinly attended. When such is the fact, it indeed becomes a matter for grave consideration with country practitioners, whether a greater degree of attention to their political importance ought not to be cultivated. Perhaps, when honourable gentlemen begin to find out that we are not without some degree of influence in returning members to seats in parliament, they will become more attentive to statements of our grievances and of our wants, officially made. I hope honourable members of parliament are not more readily swayed by such considerations than by those of justice and constitutional right. Under these views, no government can refuse to entertain seriously, and even favourably, any application respectfully made to it for amending the condition of a large body of her Majesty's subjects. One profession has as much right to have its interest protected by particular laws as any other class of men in the state. Our time and labour and money expended in education, and in the pursuit of science, are as much our property as that of the lawyer, the divine, the soldier, or any other profession or avocation in life. It is unjust in government to protect the interests of some and to neglect those of others. It is absurd in them to look quietly on and see, knowingly, the difficulty of our position. No wonder that the public, under such a state of things, too frequently undervalue medical men, individually as well as generally. Responsible as a practitioner often is for the mischief committed in spite of him by uneducated men, and for the errors and absurdities of his employers, whom he cannot control, can it be wondered at that the public doubt his acquirements, though they respect the mystery of his science? Left as he is, without any protection, except personal remonstrance in protecting the public health and his own interests, can it be wondered at that his indignation in favour of that which he thinks right, subjects him to the serious charge of being discordant and quarrelsome, without any established form of law to direct him, and left entirely to his own energy and discretion? Can it be said to be discord to defend his opinion of what is right and true with firmness, and his profession and station in society from being trampled upon by empiricism? No; were the public, from their education, capable of understanding the difficulties of the position of a practitioner in medicine, these accusations would not be brought against him as an opprobrium, but would be considered more as exemplifications of his love of justice and his sense of honour than of his proneness to discord.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. CARMICHAEL.

A deputation from the committee appointed by the subscribers to this fund waited upon Mr. Carmichael, at his house, in Rutland-square, on Wednesday last, for the purpose of presenting him with the splendid piece of plate subscribed for by more than 400 of his professional brethren. The following address was read by Dr. Thomas Beatty, chairman of the committee:—

"To Richard Carmichael, M.R.I.A., Corresponding Member of the Royal Academy of Medicine of France, &c.

Sir,—In fulfilment of the duty imposed upon us by upwards of 400 members of the medical profession, we have waited upon you to present to you this piece of

plate, the "Testimonial" by which they are anxious to record their deep sense of your merits as a successful cultivator of medical science, and a zealous supporter of the honour, dignity, and interests of the profession.

In the discharge of this office, so extremely gratifying to us, we cannot avoid availing ourselves of this occasion to express personally the high respect and regard which, in common with the profession in all countries we entertain, not only for your public and professional character, but also for your private worth.

THOMAS E. BEATTY, Chairman.

HAMILTON LABATT, Secretary."

Mr. Carmichael returned the following answer:—"GENTLEMEN,—This splendid testimonial, presented to me by upwards of four hundred of my professional brethren, distinguished as many of them are in both countries, is indeed a flattering and gratifying indication that my exertions for the advancement of medical science, and my desire to promote the respectability of our profession, have not been altogether unsuccessful.

Testimonials of the estimation in which any individual is held by our profession, are seldom offered, except by pupils to their teachers, or as a tribute to the memory of those who are no longer objects of professional rivalry or jealousy. But you have nobly and disinterestedly vindicated the character of our profession, and proved how little it is actuated by any feelings but those that do it honour.

Gentlemen,—I feel grateful for the reasons which have induced you to present this testimonial. That you should consider me "a successful cultivator of medical science" is to me a source of pride. That I should have been also, in your opinion, "a zealous supporter of the honour, dignity, and interests of the profession," is to my feelings no less a matter of gratification.

Knowing that some of the highly-valued friends around me entertain different opinions from mine as to the means of promoting the respectability of our profession, I feel doubly gratified by their presence here this day. Though every enlightened and candid member of our body must admit the many evils which prevail in it, and the necessity of some reform, yet the remedy is not so apparent as the disease.

I trust, however, that without subverting established and venerated institutions, every improvement necessary for the interests of the public, and for the usefulness and honour of the medical profession, may be accomplished.

Allow me, gentlemen, in conclusion, to express with warmth and sincerity the deep sense I entertain of the kind and too flattering terms in which you have presented to me this splendid, this honourable, this most highly prized testimonial."

The piece of plate consisted of a silver centre-piece, representing the Graces, supporting, above, a basket richly ornamented with flowers. The figures are dead white, beautifully executed, and standing on a tripod base of burnished silver. On two sides of the base, Mr. Carmichael's arms and crest are engraved in antique scroll shields, and on the third the following inscription:—

PRESENTED TO
RICHARD CARMICHAEL, M.R.I.A.,
CORRESPONDING MEMBER
OF THE
ROYAL ACADEMY OF MEDICINE OF FRANCE
BY
FOUR HUNDRED AND TEN OF HIS PROFESSIONAL
BRETHREN,
EXPRESSIVE OF THEIR SENSE OF HIS ANXIOUS DESIRE
TO PROMOTE THE INTERESTS OF HIS PROFESSION
AS WELL AS OF HIS UNWEARIED ZEAL IN
THE ADVANCEMENT OF MEDICAL
SCIENCE.

Medical Press.