has a healthy smooth appearance, without seam or puckering of any kind; and, as he was able to move the joint freely, and walk about the garden with tolerable ease, he was discharged from the hospital, and made an out-patient.

He called a short time afterwards and told me that he walked with perfect freedom, and had had no return of ulceration of the cicatrix, as is sometimes found to be the case after injuries of this kind.

In recording the treatment adopted in the foregoing case, I do not wish to take any credit to myself for employing a remedy with the virtues of which, in such cases, surgeons have been long acquainted. Mr. Greenhow, of Newcastle, first introduced it into practice, using it as a defensive, for the purpose of preventing the access of air to the denuded parts. He did not, I believe, continue to use it throughout the whole progress of the case, but substituted for it other applications which the circumstances of the case might afterwards seem to require. In the commencement of the preceding case I used it, mixed with flour, for the same purpose of excluding air, but, finding it occasioned pain, and that I could not properly see what was going on underneath, although it had seemed to promote the growth of granulation, I determined to use equal parts of treacle and water, on rags, constantly applied as a lotion to the injured surface. The application of treacle in this manner has convinced me by the result of this, and other cases similarly treated, that it has some specific effect in expediting the cicatrization of burns and scalds, however extensive they may be, and that it prevents, in a great degree, the unsightly puckering and contraction which too often interfere with the proper actions of joints involved in these accidents. I have, since that time, had several opportunities of testing its value as a remedy in these cases; and have, from what I have seen of its effects, adopted it in every case of the kind which has come under my care, both in hospital and private practice; and in each case it has seemed to have been instrumental in preventing, or at least diminishing, the chances of consecutive contraction.

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL.

EXCISION OF THE SUPERIOR MAXILLARY BONE.

On Wednesday last Mr. Fergusson excised the superior maxillary bone, before a numerous collection of students, and members of the profession, from different parts of the metropolis. We had the advantage of being present during the performance of this difficult operation, and cannot avoid expressing our admiration of the coolness and dexterity which Mr. Fergusson displayed on this occasion. The patient was a child about 12 years old, affected with a tumour of the superior maxillary bone; the tumour had grown very slowly, and presented several characters, which induced Mr. Fergusson to believe that it was not of a malignant nature. The result of the operation proved the correctness of Mr. Fergusson's diagnosis. The morbid growth was composed of bone, and fibro-cartilage: the whole of the diseased parts were removed, and we sincerely trust that the ultimate result of the operation, which cannot fail to increase Mr. Fergusson's reputation in a remarkable degree, will be favourable.

POOR-LAW MEDICAL RELIEF.

We have been favoured by the President of the Royal College of Surgeons with the following communication on the subject of poor-law medical relief. Although we cannot agree with Mr. Guthrie in expecting any considerable ameliorations from the poor-law commissioners, we cannot but return our thanks, on the part of the medical profession, to Mr. Guthrie, for the praiseworthy exertions, which we have reason to

know he has recently made on the behalf of union surgeons:—

“4, Berkeley-street,
Feb. 1, 1842.

My dear Sir,—I am glad to have it in my power to inform you, that I have again conferred with the poor-law commissioners, on the subject of the various grievances of which the surgeons employed under the poor-laws complain; and they have been pleased to make such alterations in their regulations about to be issued as will redress nearly all of them; and I have a confident hope that, in the course of a reasonable time, the whole will be removed.

From the various communications I have had at different times with the poor-law commissioners, and particularly with Mr. G. C. Lewis, I am convinced that the members of the medical profession have firm friends in them, and I rely as much on their kindly feelings as on the justice of the claims which may be placed before them.

A careful inquiry has satisfied me that the total sum paid by the different boards of guardians, to all the practitioners in England and Wales in charge of the poor, is not half what it ought to be, according to any of the computations or calculations which have been made, either by doctors or assistant poor-law commissioners, on the subject; and if the guardians of the poor will not consent to give a reasonable remuneration to a medical man for his attendance on the poor, the public must not expect them to be fairly or honestly taken care of.

I beg you will have the goodness to communicate the contents of this note to the gentlemen who favoured the vice-presidents, and myself, with their company at the college; and that you will believe me to be, most truly yours,

G. J. GUTHRIE, President, R.C.S.
T. Howell, Esq., Clapton.”

PETITION ON POOR-LAW MEDICAL RELIEF.

The following form of petition on the subject of poor-law medical relief has been adopted by the Worcester Council of the Provincial Association. As the season for active exertion in this important matter is rapidly approaching, we would earnestly entreat the local councils of the Association to prepare petitions of a similar nature for presentation to Parliament.

A well sustained effort at the present moment cannot fail to produce beneficial results:—

That the bill, which your petitioners expect will speedily come under the consideration of Parliament, for the further amendment of the laws relating to the relief of the poor, will afford an opportunity for improving the present imperfect and unsatisfactory provision of medical relief.

That in the year 1838, a committee of your Honourable House examined several medical practitioners, who were unanimous in suggesting certain amendments of the present system, several of which were approved of and recommended by that committee, and have since been agreed to, although not adopted by the poor-law commissioners.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that provisions to secure the general adoption of these measures may be introduced into the said bill; and, in particular:—

First,—That a medical director may be appointed to superintend all matters relating to the medical relief of the poor, to which department his whole time and attention may be devoted.