fording by the local institutions for the relief of the suffering poor, so munificently supported by our liberal townsmen. In the Manchester Royal Infirmary, Dispensary, and Fever Hospital, Eye Institution, Lying-in Charities, Dispensaries, Lock Hospital, &c., the pupil has opportunities, unequalled elsewhere, for becoming practically acquainted with all the ordinary, and many of the extraordinary, forms of disease; while the acknowledged skill and talent of the medical officers to whom these charities are intrusted, are a sufficient guarantee for the value of the knowledge of medical and surgical treatment which may be acquired from their practice." He condemned that empirical knowledge which some might deem the royal road to the mastery of the necessary professional information, and said that the time allowed for medical education was sufficient for the acquirement of the requisite scientific knowledge, if ordinary talent and industry were brought to the task. Mr. Ransome then proceeded to take a general glance at the relation of the subjects of the lectures to each other, and to the grand object ever to be kept in view—the prevention, detection, distinction, and cure of disease. In the course of doing so, he expressed his apprehension that the utility of the study of the minute anatomy of the tissues was not sufficiently recognised by students generally, so as to induce them to enter upon it with zeal. He warned the students against hastily adopting physiological hypotheses, but urged them rather to collect and generalise facts. When treating of chemical knowledge, the lecturer observed, that "the rapid progress of that department of chemical science which peculiarly includes subjects most interesting to the medical man—I mean organic chemistry—has opened a page of the book of nature, difficult, indeed, to decipher, but replete with most important consequences to medical science. The knowledge of the facts and principles of inorganic are essential to a right understanding of organic chemistry; but the medical student will not be required to follow out to its fullest extent the chemical peculiarities of the inorganic kingdom; but I do earnestly beg that you will pay sufficient attention to the second part of the course, to enable you to estimate the progress which the application of chemistry to physiology promises to ensure. Already has the controversy commenced; the master minds of the world are girding themselves for the conflict; and from the collision may truth be elicited."—Reverting to clinical lectures,—the instruction derived from which, he said, was invaluable, and yet was generally the most neglected by pupils,—he observed, that, "if examinations for degrees were conducted on the system adopted in Germany for their Staats examinations—viz., superintending the practical treatment of a few patients under the eye of the clinical professor for a given time, there would be few who would dare to neglect such a privilege."

In conclusion the lecturer said—"No time remains to consider the degree of preparation, the result of previous education, though this alone might advantageously occupy an hour's lecture. I am willing to take for granted, that you have enjoyed the average education which is usual in this country among those of your station. But I now ask, do you bring to your arduous task of acquiring the varied and complicated knowledge requisite for medical practitioners, a deep

sense of your responsibility, a firm determination to apply yourselves to your duty, a will and a power to command your attention, and address yourselves to the subject before you? Are you liable to be bound in the leaden chains of indolence, or to listen to the fascinating whispers of the siren voice of pleasure or dissipation? Have you well weighed the awful responsibility of your future position, that to you, as an instrument under Providence, will be confided the life and health of a child by its parent, of a wife by a husband? and are you prepared to adopt the only course which can support you in the trying scenes of domestic sorrow which certainly await you—viz., the consciousness of having neglected no means or opportunity of acquiring knowledge, and of exercising your judgment? Whatever motive may have induced you to enter the medical profession, whether love of science, expectation of utility, ambition, or hope of pecuniary advantages, none can be realised without energy and diligence. Nor must you be disappointed, if, after the most praiseworthy exertions, after gaining honorable distinction among your contemporaries in the school, the deserved success should not arrive so soon as you expected."

MODE OF CLEARING THE CATHETER WHEN OBSTRUCTED BY COAGULA.

By S. B. DENTON, Esq., Hornsea.

In retention of urine from enlarged prostate gland, I have often found it extremely difficult to evacuate the bladder on account of the coagula which plug up the apertures of the catheter. Nothing can be more vexatious, after we have overcome the difficulty often experienced in passing the catheter over an enlarged prostate fairly into the bladder, than to find that no urine flows off, and this may recur during repeated trials. The catheter is withdrawn, the clots of blood removed, and the instrument returned, but the result is the same; we are unable to relieve the bladder of its contents.

The above difficulty may, I apprehend, be completely surmounted by the following contrivance:—

I requested Messrs. Weiss and Son to make me a catheter, between the size of Cooper's prostate catheter and the one in common use, to fit on the cross-pipe of the stomach-pump. I fix the metal stand on the bottom pipe, the cross-pipe being adapted to the end of the catheter which projects from the urethra.

The metal stand is then immersed in a basin of warm water held by an assistant; the syringe is filled with the water, and a stream made to pass along the catheter into the bladder. On injecting the water, it will be immediately seen how perfectly and instantly this method removes the obstacle to the urine finding its way along the tube. Any foreign body stopping up the openings of the catheter can by these means be now readily removed, and the patient speedily relieved.

I have no doubt but that Mr. Weiss could readily contrive a smaller syringe with cross-pipes, which would answer the same purpose as the stomach-pump, and might be fitted in a case with a catheter so as to be very convenient for the pocket.

Oct. 20, 1842.