of delivery, by Dr. Watson, at the Middlesex Hospital. We also propose publishing a course of lectures on organic chemistry, in its application to arts and agriculture, by M. Payen, member of the Institute of France.

CLINICAL LECTURE,

DELIVERED IN

THE WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL,

By Mr. GUTHRIE,

Saturday, October 15, 1842.

GENTLEMEN,—I desired last Saturday that notice might be posted up in the hall of my intention to give an introductory this day to my lectures, having refused to permit my name to be placed in the list of clinical lecturers for this season, because I do not choose to promise that which I may not perform. I read in a medical journal, early in the present year, some uncivil observations on this subject, from some one purporting to be a student; my mouth was immediately closed; not one word have you heard from me since. I have, however, now reason to believe that the gentleman who wrote these remarks is not a student, and I do not think it right to punish the innocent for the guilty. I shall, therefore, notice some of these excellent cases, and bring the individual subjects of them before you, who, during the first six months of this year, brought me, almost without an exception, every day to the hospital; and I shall be happy to think that even one half of you paid them only half the attention they received from me.

It appears that some gentlemen wish to run down this hospital, both as relates to the relief the poor receive, and the instruction which students may obtain at it, by inveighing strongly against the management which does and does not take place within its walls. I regret very much that many of the assertions of mismanagement are, in all probability, true as relates to the medical arrangements, several of which are not, in my opinion, fitting for a public hospital in London. They are all of them, however, good, and well adapted for a parish infirmary; and as long as it may be thought right to continue them, the hospital must remain in a depreciated state, both as a place of refuge for the sick poor, and as a school of instruction.

When things become so bad that any change must be for the better, we may hope for improvement, and I care not how soon this takes place, for I confess I shall look forward with the hope that this hospital will then rise from its remains, and assume that character, and obtain that reputation, it never can have under existing circumstances. I have done my endeavour to remove the abuses and grievances of which I am sensible; but I abhor all disputes and squabbling, more particularly when they become personal, and I have no wish to contend with gentlemen whom I personally respect, although I believe them to be in error; and even if I thought it right to do so, I have not the time to spare which the forms of the hospital require.

With respect to you as students, I have not recommended one to come here; I have not invited you in

any way. You have come because it suited your own views, and, being here, I am at all times happy to give you every information in my power. My days of attendance are Tuesdays and Saturdays, according to the rules of the hospital; but you will see a notice in the hall that I also attend on Thursdays, believing that every physician and surgeon should see every particular case three days a-week, and when I have any one in danger I visit him every day. You need never expect me before a quarter past one, and never wait for me after a quarter past two, before which time the assistant-surgeon will go round with you if I should be absent; and whenever he does the duty of one of the surgeons, he ought to receive a regulated proportion of the money which the seniors derive from the fees which you pay for permission to attend.

I am never so contented as when you make yourselves constantly known to me, by obeying my injunctions, so frequently repeated, of walking up to me and repeating your names in my face. I do not desire one word more. When you wish anything from me, you have only to ask it; when you desire to have a clinical lecture on any subject, you have only to show to me that you have yourselves attended to it, by presenting your own notes of the case or cases on which you wish to have my opinion, and your request will always be granted. You have simply to conduct yourselves with order, regularity, and strict attention to what I say to you, and there is nothing I can do that I will not do to serve you; but, as to obtaining anything from me by any other line of conduct, it is not to be done. I have never perceived the slightest mark of personal disrespect to myself on any occasion, and I believe it is the last thing any one of you would think of offering; and as to what idle persons may write in your name, we will not in future give it any consideration. I shall judge of you by what you say and do here, and shall think the better of any young man who comes up to me boldly, but respectfully, to state his wishes or his grievances, even if the complaint be against myself. With respect to the office I hold here, I value it very little as relates to money. There are two or three of the influential governors who know it is at their service whenever they please to ask it; and, in fact, I only keep it because I hope the day is not very distant when I may be able to make my resignation more useful to the profession and to the public than it would be at the present time. I think it exceedingly unfair to the younger men, who are hanging on about an hospital, that they should have no hope of the opportunity of distinguishing themselves except by the death of, perhaps, their best friend.

The governors of the Ophthalmic Hospital at once assented to my proposition, that every surgeon should retire when sixty years' old, and I must retire when I shall have attained that age, although, perhaps, the hospital is indebted to my constant care and superintendence for its existence. I proposed to the governors of this hospital that every physician and surgeon should retire at sixty-five years of age, and they were pleased to make it a law for all such persons who may in future be elected. They spared the present ones, very much against my wishes, and have perpetuated an evil for some twenty, or perhaps thirty, years, which

I hope myself and my colleagues will have the virtue to remove.

When I had the honor of being elected a member of the council of the College of Surgeons, I found regulations existing which had been made many years, requiring an apprenticeship, or studentship, for six years, one only of which was required to be spent in studying surgery in a London hospital, for which year the same sum was paid you pay now, the age for examination being twenty-two. This I considered, with others, a great error, and we applied ourselves so steadily for its removal, that we succeeded in reducing the term of study to four years, the age to twenty-one.

If the young candidate for the medical profession remains at school until he is seventeen, he will, in all probability, have profited considerably by its ordinary instruction, and have gained sufficient preliminary information to qualify him to pass through life without remark, if not with much credit; and I hope the forthcoming Act of Parliament will enable us to secure to all such preliminary education, for I regret to say that among those students who entered the profession some years back, and are only now presenting themselves for examination under the regulations of 1836, there are many who cannot spell very common words in their native language.

If the first years of the professional education of a student were passed in the apothecary's shop of an hospital, or in that of a practitioner, visiting the sick wards occasionally, he would acquire a sufficient knowledge of the making up of medicines, and of the articles themselves, and something of other things that would smooth his path, and remove many difficulties which he would otherwise experience, by going at once to lectures in an hospital. When we augmented the course of surgical study from one year to three, we took care you should pay no more than was expected from you thirty years ago; and the whole amount of fees for hospital attendance, including the practice of the physician as well as of the surgeon, and all the lectures you are required to attend, does not exceed, at this hospital, seventy pounds, and is very little, if anything, higher at any other. You could scarcely learn to black shoes in a fashionable manner, certainly not to make them, for less money. We did more, we considered that if we caused your parents to keep you at school until you were seventeen, instead of sending you into a shop to open the door, and perform other menial offices, at fourteen or fifteen, and thereby incur an additional expense in your education, we might with propriety save them the expense they would incur in your support the last year, and we made the period of examination twenty-one instead of twenty-two. We also removed the great grievance of which so much was made, of confining instruction to the London schools, and enabled a student, who might live in a provincial town, which had an hospital and school competent for the purpose of instruction, to pursue his studies at home, and, therefore, at little or no expense. I always have thought that we who succeeded in effecting these things had done the profession some good service; and I have been surprised lately to see myself accused of doing exactly the reverse. It is true I have not thought it necessary to

enter into explanations on these points. I have, I fear, in fact, hid my light under a bushel. I have now ventured to state the fact, and I trust that those who had previously been misinformed will not feel offended at my correcting their accidental misrepresentation. I will even beg of them to try me in future by a different rule, and whenever anything is done in which I may be supposed to have had a part, in which public justice or the best interests of the public do not appear to be sufficiently consulted, and that private interests have been preferred, to believe that the transaction has not had my support. I am aware that, in causing you to attend an hospital, and to study anatomy for three years, it has been objected, that a horse may be brought to the water, but that he cannot be made to drink, which I do not dispute. I have, however, seen some thousands of horses taken to water, and have always seen them drink, unless they had lately drank before; and I am of opinion that if a young man attends an hospital regularly, he is much more likely to learn than if he should not attend at all. The proof of such attendance is derived from the reports and certificates of the teachers, and if the regulations on these subjects had been duly complied with, that proof would have been complete. The surgeons and teachers of the large hospitals declined to comply, and the college gave way. I need not tell you the regret I felt on the occasion; and I may add, that there is no abuse so great in the profession as the manner in which gentlemen grant certificates, sometimes even of an attendance which has never taken place, and for persons not actually in the country, all, I am willing to hope, out of pure negligence; but the subject is too painful to comment upon, and my only consolation on this point is derived from the belief that these irregularities will, in the course of the ensuing year, be effectually corrected.

With regard to the lectures you are ordered to attend, I am of opinion that every student should be a perpetual pupil to all; but I would not advise a regular attendance on more than one course of each, in order that the student may learn the history of the art and science he is afterwards to acquire a knowledge of by his own labors, under the observation and with the assistance of his teachers.

On the study of anatomy I have much to say, but I have only time to point out to you and to exhort you to avoid the error of learning anatomy in one place, and physic and surgery in another. Nothing can be more absurd than the peripatetic mode so frequently adopted, of walking from one end of this great town to the other to study anatomy, and back again to learn physic. They should both be taught at the same place, so that all the teachers may act together for the good of the student and the public, and where this is not done as it ought to be I would recommend you not to attend.

I have heard it said that it is beneath the dignity of an hospital surgeon or teacher to ascertain whether his students are present or not, and that it is equally derogatory to the character of a student to have a watch set upon his attendance; to which I have always replied that the regius professors of divinity, and others of equal rank, in the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, do not think it unbecoming in them

to ascertain that their students attend regularly, and that hospital surgeons and teachers may do with great propriety what such men as these have done; and whilst the sons of the greatest men in this country are regularly marked off every morning, as they go to chapel in these colleges, and the defaulters noted, medical students of the same age may and ought to readily submit to the same ordeal, which is purely for their advantage.

The inattention shown by many professors with respect to the attendance of their students renders another functionary necessary, who is called a grinder. As the time approaches for the final examination of the student at the College of Surgeons for the diploma, he becomes then sensible of the folly of his conduct in not attending to his studies, and he seeks a gentleman who shall stuff as much information into him in a few weeks as may answer his momentary purpose. Thus crammed, as the term is, he fixes his day to go off, perfectly satisfied that he would forget all he had learned from his grinder in a month, if the grinding were not daily sustained. Under these circumstances young men have frequently assured me they could describe a part or a disease they had not seen just as well as one they had; I have myself heard a student describe very well the biceps flexor cubiti muscle, and not know it when shown to him. Anatomy is only to be learned by dissection, disease by attendance at the bed-side of the sick in an hospital. There is then to be acquired that confidence in your own knowledge which will enable you to manage and subdue a complaint without assistance from your teacher, and which confidence is only to be acquired by experience and observation. Your whole life, in fact, must be one of continued study, and you will at last die having much to learn.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE INFIRMARY.

[*Practice of Sir John Fife.*]

REMOVAL OF TUMOR FROM BENEATH LOWER JAW.

(Report by Mr. John Mitchell.)

Robt. Bowsfield, aged thirty-nine, husbandman, was admitted Sept. 24, 1842, into the Newcastle-on-Tyne Infirmary, under the care of Sir John Fife, with a tumor beneath lower jaw.

He states that he had quinsy about fifteen years ago; after he recovered he found a small hard knot about the size of a bean close below the ear on the left side, and he was unable to open his mouth as wide as formerly; he took little notice of the circumstance, as it gave him little uneasiness; the tumor remained nearly stationary for eight years (but whenever the patient caught a cold it was always a little larger); it then began gradually to increase, and continued to do so up to the present time; during the last six months, however, the growth of the tumor was more rapid than at any other time. Has had little or no medical treatment, except about five years ago, when it was blistered, and iodine ointment was rubbed in; he persevered in this treatment for two months without the least benefit.

Symptoms on Admission.—The tumor is of a large size; it extends from opposite the external meatus of the ear on each side, backwards upon the neck, forwards on the side of the cheek, and downwards to within two

inches of the symphysis menti. It is of an oval figure, smooth and round on the surface; the color does not differ from that of the surrounding parts; it is movable to a great extent (and he thinks it has become much more so within the last two years); it does not appear to be fixed to the ramus of the jaw; it is firm, and seems slightly attached above the angle of the jaw; it occasions considerable inconvenience during mastication; the patient cannot open his mouth more than an inch; he experiences great uneasiness, with pain in the head whenever he stoops. Bowels open; pulse good; tongue clean, and in every other respect he is in the enjoyment of good health and spirits.

Sept. 27. *Operation.*—The patient was seated on a chair, and leaned obliquely on a table. An incision was made from the mastoid process to the chin, and the integuments turned upwards; another incision, commenced near the centre of the first, was continued downwards till it intersected without opening the external jugular vein; the dissection carried under the base of the tumor then exposed the mastoid muscle, internal jugular vein, and sheath of carotid; the portio dura of the 7th was divided, and a small part of the parotid gland, which was indurated and attached to the tumor, was removed along with it; six arteries required ligature; the integuments were brought together by suture, and covered with lint steeped in cold water. The patient evinced great fortitude; the structure of the lower and anterior part of tumor proved fibrous; that next the parotid was much more indurated, presenting the radiating lines observed in scirrhus formations. Weight, nine ounces; largest circumference, eleven inches. He was ordered to have an opiate at bed-time.

28. Has passed a good night; slight pain and stiffness in wound; no thirst; bowels open.

29. The wound was dressed this morning with lint steeped in cold water, and the compress was kept constantly wet; good deal of swelling in lower part; mouth twisted a little to right side; bowels confined. To have an opening draught. The power of feeling in the cheek is not so perfect as on the sound side.

Oct. 2. Dressed again this morning; doing remarkably well; swelling in cheek much abated; suppuration healthy; bowels open.

9. Has gone on since 2nd without a bad symptom; the ligatures were removed this morning; wound quite healthy; mouth still twisted a little. Convalescent.

ONYXIS.

The diseased lateral growth of the nail of the great toe, when it presses into the surrounding soft parts, and causes a fungous granulation to spring forth, is nearly as painful as the operation usually adopted for its cure. M. Payan, the principal surgeon of the Hotel-Dieu, at Aix, in an essay on caustics, which recently gained the prize offered by the proprietors of the "Bulletin de Thérapeutique," advises the application of the Vienna paste to that portion of the matrix of the nail, which corresponds to the part involved in the vicious growth. The adjacent parts are to be protected by adhesive plaster. By the destruction of the matrix, the reproduction of the diseased nail is prevented. The Vienna paste is the potassa cum calce, prepared with six parts of quick lime and five of pure potass.