of opium, yet "he was decidedly of opinion that the child's death was caused by opium."

Dr. Babington also thought the remedy, not the disease, produced death. He tells us the heart disease arose from "a difficulty of propelling blood," but does not say how he knows that the enlargement of the heart was not congenital. It should not become fashionable to punish one man upon the speculative opinions and theories of other men. We suppose that, generally speaking, when there are doubts, the accused party will have the benefit of them; but, as far as I am able to judge from experience, this verdict was given against the party accused, under false impressions, not upon facts. And if the judgment of the medical men of England were taken by vote, whether the evidence given at that inquest or these remarks and opinions are the most reasonable, I should not fear the result.

Remaining, Gentlemen,

Yours, &c.,

W. ALLISON.

East Retford, April 12, 1843.

TREATMENT OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF UNIONS.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—Aware as you already are of the inadequate salaries in general allowed to union medical officers for their laborious attendance on the sick poor, perhaps the following fact will be found altogether if not entirely without a parallel.

I have been the medical officer to a district in the Axbridge union for the last four years, and made during that period 2,763 visits to paupers, many living five or six miles, and the nearest one and a half from my residence, besides supplying them with necessary medicines. For this I have been paid only £133. On receiving a letter from the clerk of the board, respecting my accepting it for another year, I declined, unless the salary was increased; many of the guardians were so disposed, but on one of them stating a friend of his, Mr. Millard, would accept it without any addition, it was transferred to him, thus entirely setting aside the regulations of the poor-law commissioners, issued in March, 1842, as the only qualification this gentleman possesses is a certificate from the Apothecaries' Company in London, and he has been in practice not three years in this part of the country (or any other to my knowledge).

Having lately reduced a fractured leg, I considered myself entitled to a fee of three guineas, which was refused by the board on the ground of my election having taken place prior to the appearance of the new regulations—a mere subterfuge, in my opinion, to evade payment.

Should you think proper to insert the above in your valuable and widely-circulated Journal, you will oblige

Your obedient servant,

W. H. PARSLEY, M.R.C.S.L.

Banwell, April 3, 1843.

ASSURANCE OFFICE FEES.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—I have much pleasure in informing you that the following resolution has been adopted by the medical men of this town, Modbury, and Dartmouth, upon the subject of a fee for a medical certificate from insurance companies.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. C. FORD, Hon. Sec.

"We, the undersigned medical men, pledge ourselves not to answer the inquiries of insurance companies unless accompanied by a fee of one guinea, being a resolution in unison with the British and Shrewsbury Medical Associations."

W. C. Ford, surgeon, Kingsbridge.

W. Toms, ditto ditto.

John Elliot, ditto ditto.

F. D. Pearse, ditto ditto.

F. S. Cornish, ditto ditto.

J. P. Stone, ditto, Chillington.

C. Cross, ditto ditto.

Richard Gellard, ditto, Selcombe.

W. B. Avent, ditto, Modbury.

W. S. Langworthy, ditto ditto.

George Langworthy, ditto ditto.

W. F. Langworthy, ditto ditto.

James Gest, ditto ditto.

R. Birrough, ditto, Dartmouth.

J. Puddicombe, ditto ditto.

J. Puddicombe, jun., ditto ditto.

Kingsbridge, Devon, April 9, 1843.

APPOINTMENT OF CERTIFYING SURGEONS UNDER THE NEW FACTORY BILL.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—I enclose, for insertion in your Journal, a copy of the memorial addressed to Sir James Graham, by the medical practitioners of this town and neighbourhood, on the subject of the appointment of certifying surgeons under the new Factory Bill. A petition to the same effect will be presented to the House of Commons. Both documents have received the signatures of a great majority of the medical men in this town, including the names of those of the highest standing and respectability.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. INGHAM IKIN.

Leeds, April 17, 1843.

To the Right Hon. Sir James Graham, M.P., Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department.

The memorial of the undersigned surgeons and apothecaries, practising in Leeds and its neighbourhood,

Humbly sheweth,

1st. That your memorialists observe with regret and dissatisfaction the insertion of clauses in the new Factory Bill, giving the nomination and appointment of certifying surgeons to the inspectors.