indignantly, no; otherwise you might cease your efforts after reform, and give up all idea of enlisting public sympathy and assistance to rid you of evils and grievances which some of your own body are seeking to perpetuate.

Bring the matter, Gentlemen, at once before the Provincial Association; show all members of your profession to be spotless in this matter, and devise means for meeting and eradicating this *endemic* scourge; but, at the same time, award the merits of the discovery now made to your obedient servant, who hath sorely and severely suffered long and often.

Os COCCYGIS.

Nov. 27, 1843.

DR. EAGER'S REPLY TO MR. BARRETT'S LETTER.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—On perusing your Journal of the 6th inst., a letter, signed Jos. E. Barrett, came under my notice, in which the writer very elaborately endeavours to falsify all the statements I made in a previous letter, regarding the nature and extent of my connection with the Christian General Burial Society. I beg leave to repeat that *all* I have said respecting this subject is substantially correct. The subjoined letters fully attest this fact, and render it sufficiently obvious that all Mr. Barrett's counter-assertions are unworthy of credence. The only difference between Mr. Barrett's and my statement regarding the circulars is, that, instead of their being sent from the printer's to Mr. Barrett's, they were sent for from Mr. Barrett's to the printer's, leaving the facts of the spurious publication of the circular, and its connection with Mr. Barrett's residence, essentially as I have stated them. The error with regard to the packet being sent to Mr. Barrett's house, was the more admissible, as that portion of the order (the crest) would have been forwarded to Mr. Barrett's residence, had not Mr. Fleming ascertained that a policeman was in waiting to detect the author of the fraud. Of this I was informed by Mr. Fleming yesterday. I beg most particularly to direct the public attention to the following facts, and shall leave the inference to their discernment:—In the first place I found it necessary to decline this Mr. Barrett's acquaintance for *unprofessional conduct* long before he tendered his resignation as surgeon to the orphan-house. Secondly, a person living in Mr. Barrett's house at the time (whom I have ascertained to be Captain Dudley Byrne) called and gave the order to the printer. Thirdly, this Captain Byrne (who had nothing whatever to do with the Burial Society) is well known to be Mr. Barrett's *intimate friend*. Fourthly, Mr. Barrett acknowledges having sent one circular at least as a "curiosity" to a friend; and finally, this same Mr. Barrett (as appears from Mr. Fleming's letter) has disinterestedly endeavoured to prevent Mr. Fleming from bearing testimony as to Captain Dudley Byrne's identity. I cannot of course condescend to notice the insulting language which Mr. Barrett uses so plentifully in his labored epistle,

convinced that abuse neither adds to nor diminishes the value of facts.

I remain, Gentlemen,

With due respect,

Your humble servant,

JAMES EAGER, M.D.

St. Peter's-square, Manchester,

Jan. 9, 1844.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—Having seen, in the last Number of your Journal, a statement made by a Mr. Barrett, surgeon, of this town, respecting Dr. Eager's connection with the "Christian General Burial Society,"—in reference to this statement, we are sorry to add that (to say the least of it) it is full of inaccuracies; Dr. Eager had nothing whatever to do with the drawing up or composing of *any part*, much less the obnoxious and objectionable part of our circulars; and we express our regret that what was done innocently by us has been made an instrument to *injure* Dr. Eager's professional character. In a word, we solemnly testify that Dr. Eager has never composed or written one of our *rules*, nor a single sentence in any of our circulars, but highly disapproved of the clauses alluded to.

(Signed) WILLIAM KIRKHAM, 170, Rochdale-road Manchester, President.

JAMES SMITH, General Agent, 24, Richmond-street, Oldham-road, Manchester.

Jan. 9, 1844.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—Having seen, from a copy of the Provincial Journal put into my hands, the use that has been made of a note given by me to a Mr. Barrett, surgeon, of Manchester, I think it right to give a full statement of the facts.

Captain Dudley Byrne called on me with a copy of a circular of the Christian Burial Society, with an order to print 180 circulars to pattern. I did so accordingly; he called for the packet, and paid for it, leaving his crest to be cut, which I promised. Next day he came; it was not finished; he said he was leaving town, and I was to send it to Mr. Barrett, surgeon, Oxford-road. Since this event Mr. Barrett called on me to say that I could not be sure it was Captain Dudley Byrne; but I am convinced of his identity with the individual who gave me the order.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

E. L. FLEMING,

Removed from St. Ann's Churchyard to 25, St. Ann's-square.

Manchester, Jan. 9, 1844.

MIDWIFERY ATTENDANCE UNDER THE NEW POOR LAW.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—Your correspondent J. J., in his Rough Notes for Lord Ashley, remarks on the false economy and inhumanity of withholding from the poor