medical reform, which does not include the chemist and druggist, who has gradually been occupying the position of the *apothecary*, will be imperfect and inefficient; and

"That as pure and unadulterated medicines are absolutely necessary to the satisfactory and beneficial practice of physic, and inasmuch as immense suffering and loss of life annually occur from the present uncontrolled sale of drugs, it is highly expedient to compel all vendors of them to give proof of their knowledge of the qualities and uses of the articles they deal in.

"Your petitioners, therefore, in the full conviction that this question is more vitally important to the public good than to their own interests, though both are intimately connected, earnestly appeal to your honourable House, with the firm belief that it will receive your serious attention and consideration.

"And your Petitioners will ever pray."

BIRMINGHAM STUDENTS' MEETING.

At a meeting of the Students of Queen's College, Birmingham, Monday, October 7th, 1844. Mr. Pasquin in the Chair. The following resolutions were unanimously agreed to:—

"That this meeting view with extreme regret the bill proposed by Sir J. Graham for Medical Reform, which, by repealing existing statutes tending to prevent unlicensed practice, they deem calculated to lessen materially the qualifications of the mass of Medical Practitioners, and thus inflict a grievous injury upon the community.

"That this meeting consider that any Bill which will render it legal to practice Medicine and Surgery, without a preliminary systematic course of study, and without previous examination as to competency, must prove detrimental to the character and usefulness of the medical profession.

"That the boon of eligibility to public offices, which is held out to practitioners qualified by examination, cannot be deemed a sufficient incentive to a *regular and systematic* course of study, since the inducements offered are either unremunerative, as Poor Law Unions, or attainable by an extremely small proportion of the members of the profession, as hospital appointments, and for obtaining which, moreover, candidates have to depend rather upon interest than talent.

"That the proposed bill appears to this meeting to be peculiarly unjust to those, who, like themselves, are pursuing professional studies necessarily entailing upon them great expense and numerous anxieties, and who, nevertheless will, on entering upon practice, be subjected to the competition of self-constituted practitioners, whom exemption from study has disqualified for practice, and yet between whom and regularly educated men no adequate distinction is provided."

MANCHESTER MEETING.

A general meeting of the Medical Practitioners of Manchester and the neighbourhood, will be held at the Town-hall, King Street, on Wednesday, the 6th instant, at three p.m., Dr. Bardsley, sen., in the chair, for the purpose of considering the provisions of Sir James Graham's Medical Reform Bill.

RESOLUTIONS RELATIVE TO THE BILL FOR THE BETTER REGULATION OF MEDICAL PRACTICE,

Adopted by the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, at an Extraordinary Meeting, held on 11th October, 1844.

1. That the College testify their satisfaction that the Bill for the better regulation of Medical Education and Practice, so long expected, has at length been laid before the House of Commons, and has had a first reading.

2. That this satisfaction has been increased by the knowledge, that the two great principles of the measure, viz., a uniform standard of education and qualification, and the abolition of all local privileges, are those, for the recognition of which, the College have, on various occasions contended, and expressed the same opinion in petition to the Legislature.

3. That the principles now specified, if carried fully into effect, would confer a great benefit on the profession and the public, and would remove the evils and remedy the abuses now existing, and of which, for a long time past, there has been too good reason to complain.

4. That in thus providing the public with a supply of fully-qualified general practitioners, the College are of opinion that Government is undertaking all that can be properly attempted by legislative interference.

5. That the College have, with regret, observed that the part of the bill which proposes to abolish the practice of prosecuting unlicensed and unqualified practitioners, has given rise to great alarm and a good deal of opposition. The College are inclined to doubt the practicability of restraining unlicensed practice by penal enactments, or the expediency of attempting to do so by such means, and in this view they are strengthened by the fact, that such powers, although vested in some of the public bodies in Scotland, have for many years been allowed to lie dormant without any practical inconvenience. But notwithstanding that these are the sentiments of the College, yet, if it shall appear that it is the desire of a large proportion of the intelligent members of the profession, to attempt to restrain such practitioners by penal enactments,—rather than endanger the final success of a measure otherwise so beneficial, the College are disposed not to urge strongly their own opinions on this head.

6. That while the College approve most cordially of the general spirit and principles of the bill, they allow that in various details it may be desirable to introduce certain changes and modifications not affecting its principles or leading details, and which, so far from impairing the efficacy of the measure, would tend materially to facilitate its practical application.

7. That the best thanks of the College be conveyed to Sir James Graham for the trouble and attention which he has bestowed in the preparation of this bill, accompanied by a copy of the foregoing resolutions, and an expression of the hope entertained by the College, that the measure may be, at an early period of the ensuing Session of Parliament, brought under the consideration of the Legislature, and finally passed into a law.

R. RENTON, President.