

**Remarks concerning the professorship of surgery, and private lecturers : addressed to the President and Fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh / by James Russell.**

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# REMARKS

CONCERNING THE

PROFESSORSHIP OF SURGERY,

AND

PRIVATE LECTURERS;

ADDRESSED TO THE

PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS

OF THE

Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

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BY

JAMES RUSSELL,

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, EDINBURGH;  
PROFESSOR OF CLINICAL SURGERY IN THE UNIVERSITY,  
AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY  
OF EDINBURGH.

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EDINBURGH:

PRINTED BY P. NEILL.

1827.

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AND

PRIVATE LECTURES,

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OF EDINBURGH.

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## REMARKS, &c.

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IN the last Number of the *Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal*,\* Dr DUNCAN junior says, "It is important to remark, that the President of the Royal College of Surgeons is also at the head of another, and in some respects rival, school of professional education."

Much as I respect Dr DUNCAN's judgment, I cannot concur with him in the above remark. For after considering the subject deliberately, I have not been able to discover any good reason for representing the President of the College of Surgeons as the head of a rival Medical School, since the College of Surgeons has established only a single Class, on a subject intimately connected with their own department of prac-

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\* No. XCI, April 1827, p. 354.

tice, and at a time when no corresponding class existed in the University. All the Surgery then taught in the University consisted of Thirty Lectures, delivered by Dr MONRO, as an appendix to his Course of Anatomy. Surgery, therefore, in this mode of proceeding, was treated as a branch of secondary importance. But the College of Surgeons, entertaining far other views respecting the importance and usefulness of Surgery, and respecting the necessity of affording the Students an opportunity of learning all the Doctrines of Surgery, together with all the minutiae of operations, more completely in detail, conceived the idea of establishing a Professorship of the Principles and Practice of Surgery, to be taught by a practical Surgeon. The sole motive of the College for establishing this Professorship, was to insure the regular delivery of a full course of Surgical Lectures, by binding their Professor, on his appointment, to deliver annually a Course of Surgery, as long as the Winter Courses delivered in the University by the Medical Professors. And, to remove all ambiguity on this point, it was specially enacted, that the Professor should lecture without interruption for Five Months, at the rate of Five Lectures a-week.

In all these proceedings of the College there was nothing hostile to the University ; neither did the conduct



of the College in a single instance betray the smallest tendency to an illiberal interested corporation spirit ; since attendance upon a course of Surgery, delivered by a Professor in the University, or by a fellow either of the College of Physicians or of the College of Surgeons, equally qualifies the candidate to present himself for examination.

If the denomination of Rival School be intended to include all the Private Lecturers who teach various branches of Medicine in Edinburgh, it ought to be recollected, that several of those lecturers are Members of the College of Physicians, and that even over those among them who are Fellows of the College of Surgeons the President has not any control. He cannot, therefore, with any propriety, be regarded as the head of this very useful body of men. But waving any objection to the designation, I am inclined to entertain a very different view of the subject, and to regard the Private Lecturers rather as auxiliaries than as rivals to the parent Seminary. To take anatomical instruction as an example, since there are five Lecturers on Anatomy Fellows of the College of Surgeons. The first point to ascertain, is the number of students whom a single individual has a reasonable prospect of instructing in the various branches of Anatomy with sufficient accuracy, to enable



him to perform the operations of surgery with intelligence and safety. I cannot pretend to determine this point with absolute certainty, while I am confident that no single individual, however industrious, or however able, could do justice to 700 students at one time. Now, according to the most accurate information which I have been able to obtain, there are above 700 students at present in Edinburgh, attending the different Lecturers on Anatomy. The Professor of Anatomy could not alone teach so great a number of Students. The excess, therefore, above what he could teach personally, must be taught by other anatomists. And it is a most fortunate circumstance for Edinburgh, that so great a number of able and well informed lecturers should have arisen in the College of Surgeons, to lend their assistance in teaching this most important branch of medical education. For, without presuming to place the Private Lecturers on a level with the learned Professor in the University, I have not any hesitation in asserting, that every one of them is perfectly qualified to teach Anatomy in a most excellent manner. Some of them have, by their publications, already made themselves most creditably known to the medical world, and have obtained a reputation far beyond the limits of Scotland. The exertions of the Private Lecturers, therefore, supply a deficiency which otherwise would have existed with regard to anatomical



instruction, the foundation of all medical science. And a knowledge of this deficiency would have prevented a certain class of students from coming to Edinburgh for a medical education.

It is not, however, merely as Lecturers on Anatomy, that the exertions of those gentlemen are a support to the University. Since, besides lecturing, every one of them has opened a dissecting-room for the purpose of giving instruction in Practical Anatomy. I need hardly observe, that a student cannot reasonably expect to be a good anatomist, unless he dissect a great deal himself. Influenced by the same view of the subject, the College of Surgeons enacted a regulation, to compel every candidate for a diploma to attend a course of Practical Anatomy. The number of students who attended the dissecting-rooms last winter was very great. I can state, from information which I am confident is very nearly correct, that there were at least three hundred students of Practical Anatomy. And I very much question, whether the Professor of Anatomy could undertake to teach this very important branch of medical education, on account of the drudgery and consumption of time requisite to do justice to so great a number of students. For the Professor requires leisure to prosecute the study of Anatomy with a view to improvement, in order that he may



keep pace with the discoveries which are perpetually making, and thereby maintain the high character and reputation for knowledge which becomes his dignified situation. The assistance, therefore, which the University receives from the Private Lecturers in teaching Anatomy, is, in my opinion, very great, and contributes essentially to support the high reputation of Edinburgh as a seminary for Medical Education.

The Private Lecturers on Chemistry, also contribute most essentially to promote the prosperity of the University, without affecting the interest of the Professor of Chemistry, provided he has knowledge, abilities, and industry, to discharge the duty of his chair in a creditable manner. Nothing can more powerfully illustrate the security with which such a professor may bid defiance to the rivalship of the most formidable competitors, than the success of the present distinguished Professor soon after the commencement of his academical career at Edinburgh. He then had to contend with two rivals of very superior talents, Dr THOMAS THOMSON, the present celebrated Professor of Chemistry at Glasgow, and the late Dr JOHN MURRAY, a most eloquent and popular lecturer. Now, what was the result of this formidable rivalship? Did Dr HOPE's progress to eminence suffer the smallest retardation or abatement? In my opinion it did not.



On the contrary, I am persuaded that his success has been greater, in consequence of the effect which the reputation of those two respectable chemists had in raising the character of Edinburgh as a school of Chemistry. Both of them had written Systems of Chemistry, which were well received by the public. This test of their chemical knowledge extended their fame to a distance, and served to attract an influx of students, from remote quarters of the country to a seminary where so many excellent courses of chemistry were given. The Professor in the University naturally derived an advantage from this additional influx of students more than sufficient to compensate any trifling loss which he sustained by a few individuals choosing to attend one of his rivals. The industry, too, of a Professor in the University is always more completely insured, when he is under the necessity of making perpetual exertions to secure himself from the inroads and encroachments of active Private Lecturers.

In another department of Chemistry also, which did not in the least interfere with the Lectures delivered by the Professor, the University is beholden to a Fellow of the College of Surgeons, for his exertions to afford the students an opportunity of acquiring practical knowledge in Chemistry. A few years ago, Dr FYFE opened



classes for Practical Instruction in Chemistry and Pharmacy, which he conducted in a most masterly manner.\* The attempt was most meritorious, as every one acquainted with the extent and complexity of chemical science, must be aware of the impossibility of a student retaining a distinct impression of the multifarious substances, and processes, and chemical phenomena, unless they are repeatedly presented to his notice under circumstances which afford him an opportunity of examining every thing at leisure, and to his complete satisfaction.

The establishment of these practical courses was obviously a most valuable addition to the Chemistry before taught in Edinburgh. The Professor, it is evident, has not time to superintend such a course himself. But Dr HOPE being convinced of its utility, has, very much to his honour, encouraged his assistant Mr LONGSTAFF to undertake a similar course. The value of practical instruction in Chemistry, is daily becoming better known, and more highly appreciated. All the students who have attended those courses, are fully convinced of the very great advantage which they have derived from them. So that now there is every reason to

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\* Dr FYFE's example has been followed by Dr TURNER, who has delivered several Practical Courses of Chemistry and Pharmacy of great merit, as indeed might have been anticipated from his extensive and accurate knowledge of the subject, and his distinguished abilities as a Lecturer.



expect, that, in the course of a few years, a knowledge of practical Chemistry will be much more generally cultivated, to the great benefit of the parties, and to the manifest advantage of the University, in whose reputation all improvements made in the medical education of Edinburgh ultimately merge. This general tendency of all improvements to converge towards the University as a focus of attraction, is but a just retribution for the obligation which the Private Lecturers owe to the meritorious and successful exertions of the Professors, who have raised the reputation of Edinburgh to so great a height as a seminary of medical education. The Professors and the Private Lecturers are mutually interested in promoting the general prosperity of the University. And while so large a concourse of medical students continues to flock to Edinburgh, every Lecturer on Medicine, whether public or private, who has merit to deserve encouragement, will be certain to receive it.

#### CONCERNING APPRENTICES.

A well conducted apprenticeship is of inestimable value to a Student of Medicine, by communicating practical knowledge and practical habits, which prepare him to exercise his profession with credit to himself, and advantage to the public. For, as a large proportion of the



knowledge requisite to practise Medicine with success, is the result of observation and experience, a student cannot too early be placed in a situation to begin the acquisition of it. Now, an apprenticeship to an experienced practitioner, affords every facility of improvement in a great degree of perfection. The patients of the master provide an ample field for observation, which the apprentice cultivates to the greatest advantage, by having, at the commencement of his studies, his attention directed to the objects the most worthy of notice, which he is capable of understanding. The instructions of the master are of the greatest importance in this instance, since, from the complicated nature of the subject, the obscurity of many symptoms, and the delicacy and accuracy of observation requisite for substantial improvement, an apprentice would otherwise overlook many circumstances essential for him to note and to remember. And being thus early introduced to an acquaintance with the appearance and habits of the sick, he learns to investigate a case in a more satisfactory manner, and to describe it with more distinctness. The necessity, too, which the apprentice is under of making regular reports to his master, obliges him to acquire habits of attention and accuracy, which modify his character, and ultimately make him a more intelligent and judicious practitioner.



All the above advantages are the obvious consequences of placing a young man under the superintendence of an intelligent practitioner, provided sufficient attention is, at the same time, paid to have him instructed in the scientific principles of his profession. This, therefore, should be a principal object with the superintendant of his education, and is by no means incompatible with the prosecution of his practical pursuits. On the contrary, the knowledge of diseases which he acquires at the bedsides of patients, qualifies him to benefit more completely from attendance upon lectures, and from the perusal of books. The practical and scientific branches of his education may therefore be carried on together with the greatest advantage.

Another great benefit of an apprenticeship is the opportunity which it affords the apprentice of becoming familiarly acquainted with the appearance, sensible qualities, preparations, and doses of medicines; a department of knowledge which it is of the greatest advantage to acquire at the outset of life, before the mind is distracted by attention to a variety of important objects.

The above exposition sufficiently displays the advantage of serving an apprenticeship to an attentive intelligent experienced practitioner, who will be careful to



teach the apprentice habits of industry and attention, to instruct him in all the points of practice suited to his capacity, to direct and superintend his studies, and to examine him with regard to the progress which he has made in his professional pursuits. But, the apprentice, to enjoy the full benefit of his apprenticeship in rendering his education perfect, should reside at the seat of a Medical School, where, during the currency of his indentures, he will have an opportunity of attending Lectures on every subject connected with Medicine.

# LETTER

TO THE

RIGHT HONOURABLE

THE LORD ADVOCATE,

PROPOSING

A Means of Procuring

(BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT)

SUBJECTS FOR THE INSTRUCTION

OF

MEDICAL STUDENTS,

WHEREBY THE PRESENT

BARBAROUS SYSTEM OF RAISING THE DEAD

WILL BE EFFECTUALLY PREVENTED;

THE

CELEBRITY OF OUR MEDICAL AND SURGICAL  
SCHOOLS PROMOTED;

A PERMANENT FUND BE ACQUIRED FOR  
THE BURIAL OF THE POOR;

AND THE

ADMISSION TO HOSPITALS EXTENDED TO ALL;

WHILST THE DEMANDS FOR SUPPORTING CHARITY WORK-HOUSES

WILL BE DIMINISHED,

AND THE STATE AND MORALS OF ALL CLASSES  
AMELIORATED.

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PRINTED BY A. AIKMAN, JUN.

FOR J. CARFRAE, MEDICAL BOOKSELLER,

3, DRUMMOND STREET.

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1822.

Price Sixpence.



THE LORD ADVOCATE  
RIGHT HONOURABLE  
TO THE  
THE LORD ADVOCATE  
A SCHEME OF REFORMING  
(BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT)  
SUBJECTS FOR THE INSTRUCTION

MEDICAL STUDENTS  
HARRISON'S SYSTEM OF RAISING THE DEAD  
WILL BE EFFECTUALLY PREVENTED;  
THE  
CELEBRITY OF OUR MEDICAL AND SURGICAL  
SCHOOLS PROMOTED;  
A PERMANENT FUND BE ACQUIRED FOR  
THE BURIAL OF THE POOR;  
AND THE  
ADMISSION TO HOSPITALS EXTENDED TO ALL;  
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WILL BE DIMINISHED;  
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AMELIORATED.

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2, BATH STREET.

1831

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TO THE RIGHT HON.  
**THE LORD ADVOCATE.**

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*Edinburgh, 6th December, 1822.*

MY LORD,

FROM your holding the highest public appointment in Scotland, and being aware of the many services your ardour for the welfare of the community has led you to undertake, I am emboldened to lay before your Lordship the following proposition,—in which the feelings of the Public are deeply interested, and your Public Duties very unpleasantly involved.

Having, during my residence for several years abroad, while studying Anatomy, Surgery, and Medicine, in the most celebrated Universities of France, Italy, and Germany, observed the great facilities which are afforded to Students, not only of acquiring a thorough knowledge of Anatomy, which is the key-stone to medical science, but likewise by a repetition (on the dead body) of the different operations in Surgery, that they acquired confidence and facility, on being called upon to operate on the living,—as well as an intimate knowledge of Pathology ;—which branches, although among the most important pertaining to the medical profession, are too much overlooked, or at least, very imperfectly acquired, in the different Medical Schools in Great Britain,—I was impressed with a desire to render the information I had thus acquired useful to my country on my return.

The number of English (principally Edinburgh Students,) visiting *Paris* alone, for anatomical pur-



suits, I consider to be at least 200, whose expences amount, at the moderate computation of L.150 each, to L.30,000 sterling yearly, which would otherwise have been spent here: This does not include Class Fees; as by paying L.4 sterling, the Student is entitled to attend, in Paris, Anatomy, Physiology, Surgery, Materia Medica, Chemistry, Botany, Midwifery, and Legal Medicine; besides Clinical Lectures on Practice of Medicine, Surgery, Mania, Venereal Complaints, and Irruptions on the Skin, as well as the visits of six Hospitals. Thus the Professors of our University are deprived of 6000 guineas yearly.

On perceiving the vast influx of British Medical Students abroad, I enquired as to the principal cause, which induced them to leave our universities; and having found it to be the acquisition of anatomical knowledge, was thereby led to consider of the means, by which this information might be acquired at home, where their incomes would be spent, and the celebrity of this University promoted.

The following are the means, which I consider best adapted, to overcome difficulties hitherto considered insurmountable, to save the feelings of relations, and at the same time to avoid interference with the *great national prejudice*, against raising the dead.—I propose,

1st, That Infirmarys and Hospitals be open to all persons requiring medical or surgical assistance, without any obligation, on the part of the relations or masters, to bury those dying; and that in all cases so terminating, where the friends do not come forward within 24 hours thereafter, the body shall be given, for Pathological inspection and operations



during the summer, and for dissection in the winter months.

*2dly*, That all those dying in Charity or Poor's-houses, (or at least that portion whose friends come not forward within the same limited space, to pay the expence of burial,) shall be disposed of in the same manner.

*3dly*, That all children of Foundling and Lying-in Hospitals, as well as all other Public Establishments of the kind, be put under the same regulations.

*4thly*, That the bodies of all persons dying as aforesaid, who are buried at their friends' expence, shall, if thought necessary, undergo an examination previous to burial.

*5thly*, That the bodies, not so buried, be disposed of at a moderate sum, (L.1 or L.2 sterling) which shall be applied towards the expences of these different establishments, and which, from their moderate price, and the adequate supply thereby furnished, to all the Medical Schools in the kingdom, must completely put an end to the present barbarous system of raising the dead,—will improve the rising medical generation,—and prevent the feelings of a single individual from being hurt.

*6thly*, That all those bodies, as is the practice throughout the Continent, shall be buried regularly after dissection ; that a person be appointed to superintend the burial ; and further, that in the event of a body being disposed of for lecture, or otherwise, if it be removed out of the precincts of the Hospital, the superintendant shall take the person who obtains it, bound to bury the same, agreeable to the regulations of Police.



I shall now attempt to refute the principal arguments, which I expect, will be adduced against the present proposals.

The overpowering plea of prejudice will naturally be the first I shall have to encounter : From whence, may I be permitted to ask, arose this Hydra, if it was not from superstition. Prejudice I consider to have been used, in the earliest ages of Popery, as a term, signifying an opinion formed by the illiterate part of the community, while labouring under the most deplorable state of ignorance,—and among moderns, that term is applied to all irrational and bigotted opinions, formed by those who are grossly ignorant, or are incapable to judge of the subject under discussion.

Am I to listen to those, who would wish to persuade me, that Britain, at once the freest, the most liberal, and most enlightened nation of the earth, is alone under the sway of ancient Popish prejudices? Or that she, the first in literary attainments, retains the ignorance of barbarous ages? Or that the mistress of the world, disseminating knowledge and freedom by every sheet which flows from her press, is herself a slave to prejudice? Or can I admit that the reigning Government, or the representatives of the people, are unmindful of the preservation of the health of the present, or of the education of the rising generations? Or that they would knowingly force the British youth into the vortex of foreign dissipation, to contaminate the morals of their fellow-citizens on returning? Or that they would impoverish the country, by intentionally throwing her revenue into the pockets of foreigners? Or



that they would, for a moment, wish to rob our universities of their rights? No; such an idea is impossible; and yet unless a remedy is provided for the existing evil, such will be the consequence. Do not our moral and religious duties bind us to make a fit return for the benefits and comforts we receive from others? Is it not the duty of each individual to preserve the *health*, as well as the fortunes and happiness of his fellow citizens, as far as in his power? Do not our soldiers and sailors risk life itself in the field? Do not our Physicians and Surgeons expose themselves to contaminating diseases and pestilential miasmas? Nay, does not every class of society, but *one*, lend their aid to assist and support the country? And yet this *one*, living by public charity, is her greatest burden. Have not these, whom we find in public establishments, generally been noted as idlers, spendthrifts, and drunkards, through life, and such as have passed their early youth in every species of dissipation, and thus become a burden to their country at the approach of old age? Perhaps I may be told, that such characters (even though exempt from all care and toil) cannot be expected to make a return to their benefactors while in life. Will it then be thought too great a sacrifice, if I ask the temporary use of their bodies after death, for the short space of a few days, with the view of preserving the health of their fellow-citizens, who, when they were *naked, clothed them*—who, when they were *an hungered, fed them*, and who, when they were *sick, visited and restored them*; nay further, bestows on them a decent interment, when not a friend they have left will perform these



last sad rites ? I say, the man who would refuse to his benefactors so slight a remuneration, for such exalted and numerous benefits as these, is at once uncharitable, immoral, and no Christian.

A second objection is likely to be started, against the custom of submitting to the knife of the Surgeon the body of the deceased. As to whether it may, or may not, be considered barbarous, by the plurality of those labouring under ignorance and prejudice, I view as of little moment, so long as I can convince the rational part of society, that it is morally enjoined on them as individuals, for the advantage of the community, that should any of their relations die by epidemics, or diseases imperfectly known, they cause examination be made of the body. This I hold even to be a religious duty ; for the life of a brother or of a friend may thereby be saved, and thousands be relieved from excruciating and deadly diseases. Indeed we have seen various instances of the highest and most distinguished characters in the country expressly ordering an examination of their bodies after death, in order to throw as much light as possible on diseases imperfectly known, and to prevent others from falling a like sacrifice to ignorance.

Upon what principle is it, that the law is entitled to order the persons of criminals for dissection ; it certainly is not as a punishment, as the dead feel not, nor do the laws breathe revenge. Is it not rather, because they have incurred a debt of retribution to the Public, and that justice requires their lives and their persons should go so far in discharge of it ? And is it not reasonable that the bodies of



those who have been supported in Poor's houses and Hospitals, and thereby, *also incurred a debt to the Public*, should, in a case of extreme necessity like the present, be made subservient to the claims and necessities of the Public, whereby, at the same time they pay their debt to nature, they will discharge that due to their benefactors; and certainly if the one be just, the other must be so likewise. Indeed, the proposal I have made appears to me so equitable, and so obvious, that I think I might safely appeal to the most ignorant and most prejudiced, whether it is not better that a *small sacrifice* should be made to *public justice*, and *public necessity*, or that *the feelings of all* should continually be wounded and harrowed up, by the *horrible practice*, now in use, of *raising the dead*.

It has often been observed, that necessity has no law. If it is impossible, without anatomical knowledge, to form a skilful Physician or Surgeon; if, without this knowledge, the medical man must be comparatively ignorant of his duty, and perhaps the lives of thousands be, in consequence, sacrificed,—is there not an imperious call upon the Legislature, the constituted authorities, nay, on the whole community, to provide, if possible, some means or other to prevent an evil so incalculable from existing in society. Some men may be so absurd as to revolt at the idea of dissection altogether; but how much more dreadful an alternative does necessity often compel shipwrecked mariners to resort to, when one, even of the living, is voluntarily sacrificed to preserve the remainder.

As I am not aware, that any other than the fore-



going arguments are likely to be started against my proposition, I shall rest content for the present with what I have here offered in refutation, and shall now lay concisely before your Lordship the principal advantages to be derived from the foregoing plan.

*1st*, It will cause our University to become the first in Europe for every species of Anatomical, Surgical, and Pathological knowledge, and enable her Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons to make collections, at home, in Morbid Anatomy, (of which they are at present utterly devoid) instead of sending their members abroad for those purposes, at an enormous expence; and will be equally beneficial to the other colleges and universities, if these regulations be made general throughout the British dominions.

*2dly*, It will be an incalculable advantage to the rising Medical Students, and to those practitioners who may be deficient in Anatomy, Pathology, and Operative Surgery.

*3dly*, The supply of subjects, by the means proposed, will, I am convinced, be considerably greater than the demand for dissection and lectures; and thereby, at the same time, as it must completely prevent the raising of interred friends, it will enable us to have a course of Operative Surgery, wherein each Student will have the advantage of repeatedly performing on the dead all the different operations, previous to his attempting them on the living, \* which enables the Student to attain (as we daily see exemplified on the Continent,) a certitude, prompti-

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\* This is a branch of the art completely neglected in Great Britain, and is most essentially necessary to Surgeons, as they at present become proficient only by practising on the living.



tude, and confidence, that is ~~only~~ to be acquired by practice, and must also inspire the patient with a hope of recovery, which experience has proved to be nearly half the cure.

*4thly*, It will increase the revenue and prosperity of this, and of other universities and cities in the British empire, of which foreigners at present enjoy the advantage. In the computation of L36,000 sterling per annum, I included the expences of Students alone, whilst to my certain knowledge, the families, of at least one-eighth of these Students, have gone abroad to superintend the education of their children; it will therefore, act so far as a preventative to the spending of English capital abroad.

*5thly*, It will become the source of a new revenue, not merely to Hospitals, but most particularly also to Poor's-houses, and other charitable institutions.

*6thly*, It will materially increase the admission and relief of patients in Hospitals, whilst it will decrease (particularly in Scotland,) the demand for admission into Charity Work-houses, and stimulate the youth to provide for eventual age or sickness, and thereby materially improve the state and morals of the inferior classes, which must not only be the endeavour of all wise Governments, but likewise, the ardent wish of every patriotic mind.

*7thly*, It must raise our medical and surgical Practitioners, not merely in the estimation of British subjects, but will soon attain for them the reputation, as most celebrated in the universe; and therefore, not only improve the health of the community, but add to the prosperity of the nation, by drawing foreigners to her universities.



*Lastly*, It will so far preserve our morals from the contamination of foreign vices; as young men, when set too early afloat on the world, imbibe more or less of the bad habits of those they live with,—as in foreign countries *vice* attracts the unwary and inexperienced youth in shapes innumerable,—and yet her snares are more enticing than her forms are varied.

My Lord, in addressing you as a benefactor of your country—as a public spirited individual—and moreover, in your public capacity,—deeply interested in our welfare, I am fully aware, that the request I herewith prefer, that you may bring the foregoing subject, with your earliest convenience, before Parliament, will not pass unnoticed; and I am perfectly certain, that *such request will not fail in being backed by numerous petitions, on the part of those wishing for the prosperity, the exaltation, and benefit of their country.*—I remain, with all due respect,

Your Lordship's

Most obedient and humble Servant,

CH. M. ADAIR.

11, George's Street.

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N. B. Should the above measure be put in execution, I shall not delay calling your attention to several further improvements, for the benefit of the Public.