

Medical services and public payments : an address delivered at the opening of Queen's College, Birmingham, on Wednesday, October 1, 1862 / by John Postgate.

Contributors

Postgate, John, 1820-1881.
Royal College of Surgeons of England

Publication/Creation

London : John Churchill, 1842 [i.e. 1862]

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/b2wj229n>

Provider

Royal College of Surgeons

License and attribution

This material has been provided by This material has been provided by The Royal College of Surgeons of England. The original may be consulted at The Royal College of Surgeons of England. where the originals may be consulted. This work has been identified as being free of known restrictions under copyright law, including all related and neighbouring rights and is being made available under the Creative Commons, Public Domain Mark.

You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, without asking permission.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

With the author's Compl.

MEDICAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC PAYMENTS.

—

10

AN ADDRESS

DELIVERED

AT THE OPENING OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE,

BIRMINGHAM,

ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1862.

BY JOHN POSTGATE, F.R.C.S.,

PROFESSOR OF MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE AT QUEEN'S COLLEGE, BIRMINGHAM.



LONDON:

JOHN CHURCHILL, NEW BURLINGTON STREET.

MDCCCLXII.

1862

THE JOURNAL OF THE

AMERICAN

OF THE

OF THE

OF THE

OF THE

OF THE

OF THE

OF THE

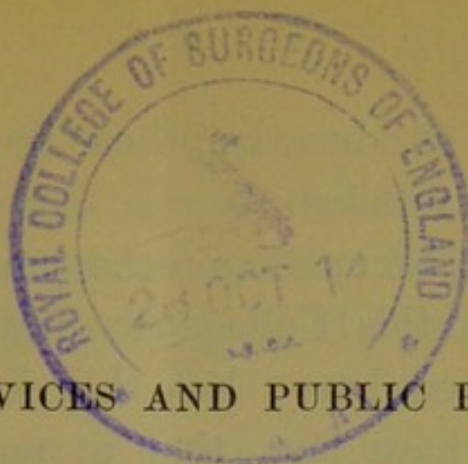
TO
THE FOUNDER OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE,
AND ITS STUDENTS,
THESE PLAIN WORDS ARE DEDICATED
BY
THE AUTHOR.

THE JOURNAL OF THE

AND ITS STUDENTS

THE JOURNAL OF THE

THE JOURNAL OF THE



MEDICAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC PAYMENTS.

Gentlemen,

The governing body of the profession—
The General Medical Council of Education and
Registration—having resolved that all students before
commencing professional studies shall pass a prelim-
inary examination, testing their efficiency in general
knowledge, and ascertaining whether their education
has been such as to qualify them for entry into one
of the most laborious, one of the most scientific, and,
I affirm without fear of contradiction, the most
useful, and at the same time most practically
benevolent of the professions—it becomes from the
honourable position the invitation of my colleagues,
and the Council of this College, has placed me in
this day, my pleasing duty to note this step in
advance; and, gentlemen, it becomes the duty of all
parents and guardians, who intend to bring their
sons or wards up to the honourable Profession of
Medicine, to note well the position the change places
all who seek to enter its portals.

It becomes their duty, I say, to look abroad, and
see where, in what college or institution, or by

what scheme of education, those requirements can be best met and fulfilled.

It would ill become me, occupying as I do one of the chairs in this College, to praise the system of tuition adopted here; but this I am prepared to assert as a bare fact, that at no institution with which I am acquainted will a better system of training for the preliminary studies and examinations now required by the Medical Council of England be found, than exists in the Junior Medical and Arts Department of this College. Thanks to the able superintendence and instructions of the Professor of Classics, the Professor of Mathematics, and the Medical Tutor and Demonstrator, Dr. FOSTER.

Having alluded to the requirements at present necessary before the student can pass the threshold of medicine, I shall now proceed to consider what qualifications are required of the student, in order that he may become a useful and distinguished member of the Medical Profession.

The first and most essential is—

1. Good health, without which all thoughts and all efforts are puny, incomplete, and inoperative.
2. A well-balanced and an evenly-regulated mind.
3. Unselfishness.
4. Fixity of purpose.
5. An unswerving determination to do always what is right, let the consequences be what they may.
6. Clearness of perception.
7. Promptness of action.
8. General benevolence; and I will add,
9. General contempt for the luxuries and comforts of life, looking for

reward to that satisfaction, peace, and contentment of conscience, which flows from the conviction of human misery alleviated, and of human life prolonged by duties faithfully discharged and services cheerfully rendered.

The use of money is to cancel debt, but debts are contracted which no money payment can ever cancel. Daily, hourly, all over the world, wherever scientific medicine and surgery exist, thousands and thousands of such debts are incurred. Malignant diseases are eradicated from the frame, deformities removed, sight and hearing restored, broken limbs cured and dislocated bones replaced, operations performed entailing the heaviest responsibility. And, young gentlemen, it will soon become your privilege to enter upon such Godlike work as this; hence I would impress upon you the importance—the deep and paramount importance—of a full appreciation by you now of your present position, and the dire consequences, neglect, in availing yourselves of the manifold opportunities this College and Hospital attached afford, of becoming practically acquainted with the arduous profession you have chosen, may bring on yourselves, and your unfortunate patients hereafter.

Having then passed with credit the preliminary examination, and proved your fitness in general education and knowledge to enter into one of the learned professions, and having made choice of medicine, I shall proceed to notice some of the

special studies and sciences which will engage your attention within these walls, and point out to you, as far as I am able, the course you should adopt to master them, or sufficient of their details, to qualify for the various duties and emergencies of public and private practice.

“Art is long, and life is short,” and most truly may it be said of medicine and its collateral sciences, that at the termination of our career, however successful, and however long; having observed well, and investigated narrowly all the phenomena of life and of diseased action, of circumstances special and general, of causes primary and secondary, that we end as we began—learners and students.

The spirit of unrest which prompts to inquiry, and the outward march of discovery in every branch of our profession, together with the wide range of medical studies, must always present objects for thought and contemplation. Supposed facts have to be verified or refuted, new theories examined and analysed, and the fresh food thus brought to the mind, with the brush in the discussion, strengthens and invigorates the profession, and renders medicine a changing but ever advancing science and art.

First. Let me observe to those gentlemen who make additions to our ranks, and appear to-day on these benches for the first time, that they will never attain eminence, or even competent knowledge, unless some plan or rule of study is adopted. Mere desultory reading, a bit here and a bit there,

attending one lecture and missing another, leads to no good and practical result. No. What is required is systematic and continuous study—never leaving for to-morrow what can be done or what ought to be done to-day. Read the best standard text-books you can procure, and make the facts thoroughly your own, so that you can convey them in your own words intelligibly to others. Keep pace with your lectures; and revise periodically your work, and see that the pictures are well photographed on the mind.

The practice of taking brief notes of lectures has its advantages: it will teach you to concentrate your attention on the subject before you, and serve to guide you in your readings at home or in your rooms, and lead to that systematic study and continuous effort which overcomes all difficulties.

Beyond all question, your first object ought to be to acquire a knowledge of the structure and conformation of the human body. Without a good practical knowledge of anatomy you never can be surgeons; and without a knowledge of anatomy you can never understand the relations of symptoms and become true and skilful physicians. The hard basis of the frame—the bones—must be mastered. The prominences and protuberances, the ridges and processes, the landmarks and beacons in your dissections, must be observed, noted, and fixed in the memory. Having obtained a thorough knowledge of the skeleton, in its parts and as a whole,

the muscles, vessels, nerves, and viscera will next claim your attention; and then it becomes necessary and advantageous to apply this information, and in the dissecting room prosecute researches for yourselves on the dead. Prosecute the inquiry there just as if you were making a discovery; and having laid bare important parts, study them in their relations. Pause and ponder. Ask yourselves what you may be called upon in the exercise of your profession to do in reference to those structures and vessels. Reflect and think. Look again, and reëxamine, and fix indelibly in the mind the great practical points of surgical anatomy.

Chemistry is a deeply interesting science. Independently of its great utility to you hereafter as medical practitioners, it will prove beneficial to you at once; producing exactness and carefulness in investigation, precision of thought, and an inquiry into all results and effects and the general causation of things. The progress of chemistry, especially organic chemistry, has been most rapid of late years, and the physician is indebted to it for the diagnosis of important diseases, as well as for the numerous potent remedies which it has discovered. Besides, a knowledge, and a very competent knowledge, of analytical chemistry is required now for the detection and punishment of fraud, and the promotion of the public health. The public officials necessary to enforce the law, to be appointed by corporations, magistrates, and vestry boards, must

possess competent medical, chemical, and microscopic knowledge, and be therefore members of the Medical Profession. I should not here have alluded to the Adulteration of Food Prevention Act, and the public analysts to be appointed under its provisions, but for the progress the subject has made in London and elsewhere—the adulteration of food and its detection forming a part of the course of medical jurisprudence in some schools of medicine—I should not discharge my duty, on the eve as I believe we are of the general adoption and universal application of the act, were I to omit all mention of the matter, and fail to direct your attention to it. While I, on the one hand, hope the act will protect the public from heartless and very mean frauds, I trust on the other hand, it will be a direct stimulus to analytical research, and prove a boon to struggling, scientific persons—beneficial alike to the public and to science. Chemistry cannot be dispensed with in the prescription of medicine; otherwise incompatibles may be ordered, and the effects of remedies marred, nullified, or changed. Chemistry is also necessary for the detection of poisons, as well as to understand the *modus operandi* of antidotes. On all accounts, then, gentlemen, give an attentive ear to all that falls from your Professor of Chemistry, and learn in the laboratory, that accuracy of observation and delicacy of manipulation which experience and work there only brings.

A knowledge of the processes of organic life, of

the functions of the various organs, their relations, sympathies, and connexions with the general whole, is indispensable for duly understanding the same when perverted, disordered, or diseased—hence, Physiology demands your earnest and studious attention; not only from its intrinsic importance, but also as an interesting study to you yourselves; affording, as it does, an insight into the various and complicated actions going on in your own bodies.

In the Summer term, with a change of season, you have a change of subjects; your time will be usefully and delightfully taken up with botanical pursuits, both in town and in the country; whilst pointing out to you the structure and functions of various parts of plants, the Professor of Botany will not fail to take you to some pleasant glades and glens in the vicinity of Birmingham; there to become acquainted with the habitats of members of the vegetable world, to unbend the mind, relax the body, store up instructive and interesting information gathered from your own observation; and, in fine, leave that in the mind which will bring agreeable recollections hereafter, when soberly settled in medical life in large towns and cities.

The important subject of *Materia Medica* and Pharmacy will, of course, require your earnest application. To know nothing of drugs—their external qualities and chemical properties—would render you like workmen ignorant of the forms and uses of their tools and instruments. A practical

knowledge of drugs is essential if you desire to be good prescribers—efficient as well as scientific members of the profession. I recommend you, therefore, to pay frequent visits to the dispensary of the Hospital, and take part in the compounding of pills, mixtures, and boluses, &c. Note well the prescriptions of the physicians and surgeons in all cases under their care, and it is to be hoped under your observation; fail not to ask questions, as to the why and wherefore in the choice of remedial agents; by so doing you will obtain information which you will meet with in no books, it will be special to the circumstances before you, and teach you to act in similar cases yourselves. How, indeed, to select your drug, its best form of preparation, and how to apportion its dose in accordance with the stage of the disease, or the severity of the disorder under your treatment.

Perhaps this is the place to make a digression, and remark that we are on the point of an inquiry into the action of medicines in the treatment of disease by a public medical society of the profession. Any investigation of this nature, to be satisfactory and productive of good, as elucidating the *modus operandi* of remedies, must obviously be carried on under the same conditions and circumstances, both respecting the drug and the patient.

First, then.—Drugs of ascertained purity and standard quality must be selected.

Second.—The type and stage of the disease must be as nearly as possible the same.

Third.—The cases selected must be such as would from similarity form a class.

Fourth.—All the observations must be examined, analysed, and tabulated; and a mean of all calculated as the general result.

There can be no doubt much of the contrariety of opinion regarding the action and uses of medicine is due entirely to their impurity and adulteration. Ask any practical member of the profession, and he will tell you how frequently he has been disappointed in the action, or want of action, of opium, quinine, and scammony; though he has prescribed the same quantities of the remedies, and the circumstances have been alike. Take sarsaparilla, which, as you know, is an expensive drug; what a variety of opinions we have respecting its utility. I have heard myself, a medical man, when asked whether he would prescribe sarsaparilla, exclaim—"Give sarsaparilla! Why, it would be a robbery on my patient's pocket. Give sarsaparilla! Give a decoction of chopped straw? No, sir, I will give my patient no sarsaparilla—he shall have a pint of London stout instead." Well, but another will say—"You are quite mistaken, sir; sarsaparilla is a very valuable remedy, and I know it has an action on the skin and on the kidneys, and, moreover, an alterative effect on the system generally; for I have seen a bad habit of body removed, and health restored, under its influence."

Here we have two opposite statements, both said

to express the result of observation and experience. How are they to be reconciled and explained? I believe both admit of ready explanation: a reference to the invoices, to the houses, and to the articles themselves, at once solves the difficulty. The former gentleman may just as well give a decoction of chopped straw, as a decoction of the sarsaparilla he gets, which in all probability has been macerated, and had its extract abstracted before it came into his possession. The other has, doubtless, been more fortunate in his dealings, and has had good, honest sarsaparilla furnished him. Hence the different results and consequent opinions. What refers to the tampering with sarsaparilla, applies more or less to other drugs and chemicals; it is therefore incumbent at the outset of this inquiry, to see to the purity of the remedies investigated. But to return.

Practical chemistry will also need all the time you can devote to its study in the laboratory, to carry out by analytical research the principles and teachings of your Professor of Chemistry, enunciated during the Winter session.

Thus then, gentlemen, who appear as freshmen to day, I have endeavoured to furnish you with a sketch of your work. It may, perhaps, to some seem extensive, and difficult to overcome; but remember what steady perseverance and persistent action have accomplished in the transactions of life. It is true there is no royal road to knowledge, the path may be rugged and steep—so much the better; the effort in

climbing will bring out your energies and impart vigour to the frame. Smooth paths and even roads are for the weak, and easy victories afford small satisfaction to the robust and the brave.

I have only now to bid you, on behalf of my colleagues and myself, a hearty welcome to this College. We are right glad to see you here amongst us. We hail you as additions to our ranks, and as friends; and we sincerely hope and trust at the termination of your first year, that stimulated by the example of your predecessors, and prompted by generous and noble emulation, you will prove yourselves distinguished students of Queen's College, both here and elsewhere.

It is pleasant to see old faces, and to greet old friends; and to you, old students of this College, whom we recognize to day, and welcome back again to renewed efforts, we say, persevere in the course you have adopted, rest not content with the progress you have already made, but push onward, until well merited success rewards you—until you rank with the first, until you feel no opportunity of improvement has been neglected; and above all, until you feel that you can conscientiously discharge, when called upon, the very important and responsible duties of Medical Practitioners, with benefit to your patients and credit to yourselves.

You are already initiated into student life, you know the importance of continued application and of persistent effort. I need not, therefore, to you,

dwell on the advantages of system in your studies, and on the necessity of attending to the precepts of your professors of medicine, surgery, midwifery, and the diseases of women and children; and to the instructions I shall endeavour to give in my course of Forensic Medicine. You know full well, that according to your zeal now, will be your position and progress hereafter. The time will soon arrive, when you will leave this institution, and be seen no more as students within its walls. Let us hope that you will so work, and that we shall so instruct you, that you may refer back to the period spent here with satisfaction and pleasure. For ourselves, as your teachers, we ask nothing but your continued attention, and that you will go on as you commenced; and when the time comes to part, we hope for nothing, and we expect nothing, save your goodwill and regard; and these only when springing from a faithful and honest endeavour on our part to discharge all the engagements and obligations we have entered into with you and your guardians.

I pass over that anxious time in your career when tests will be applied to ascertain the amount of knowledge you possess—whether you possess sufficient finally to admit you into the profession as physicians and surgeons, or whether you are to be remitted again for a period of study; but I will suppose you have passed with *eclat* the examinations of constituted authorities, and are ready to fix in life, and settle in practice. And here it will be fitting to consider,

what are the aims and ends of the profession, and its relation to the general public? and what amount of material success you may fairly expect from the exercise of it?

The object of medicine is to diminish human suffering and prolong human life; and in carrying out this, the aim and end of the profession, many sacrifices are required, especially of the general practitioner, who must frequently give up his rest, his comfort, his convenience, and the enjoyment of the ordinary pleasures of society. But I have already spoken of these in mentioning the qualifications necessary in candidates for admission into the profession, and need not again refer to them.

The medical profession is not a rich one. It contains some good prizes among many blanks; still, I believe, honest industry, steady perseverance, good conduct, with of course adequate knowledge, will almost always insure moderate success in general practice. Prosperity and adversity are relative terms. One man may be wretchedly poor on a pound a day, another perfectly independent and rich with a pound a week. Some have inability to get, and many are afflicted with inability to keep. The independence of a man is in himself and rests with himself; it depends on his prudence, on his economy, and on the philosophy in him. He must have forethought, and be in no way daunted by difficulties inseparable from the present state of society and a system of competition engendered by numbers and nourished by selfishness.

Many of the ills and evils of the profession are the result of want of union and combined action on our part; many are inherent to the public practice and custom of the country; and many have a deeper cause, and can only be referred to a want of gratitude and appreciation of the services rendered by the profession.

There can be no doubt that the position of the under-paid, hard-working, and generally struggling Poor Law Union surgeon is due to inordinate competition. Boards of guardians are too often hard masters, and are frequently guided by an economy at once cruel and false. Instead of curtailing the surgeon's salary and reducing it to the lowest ebb, common humanity and true economy should prompt them to liberality in payment of medical services; thereby mitigating human suffering, and, by diminishing the duration of diseases, effecting a real saving in extras—wines, spirits, &c. As the matter stands at present, the salary is admittedly wholly inadequate to supply suitable remedies, consequently the more expensive ones are rarely prescribed; and though we have a system of medical relief for the poor, it is frequently little more than a sham—the surgeon professing to attend to the patients, but in reality doing only what he can for the money; and the board of guardians fully aware of this state of things—suffering from a paralysis of the conscience—very ready to tell the doctor, if he complained and asked for more money, that he may

resign, and that they can procure another surgeon at half the cost. Now who are the sufferers? The poor, the helpless, and the fatherless. And who is to blame in the matter? If the guardians wish the paupers to be cured, why don't they allow the doctor sufficient money to do it? If they wish them to die by omission, and thus be rid of the charges, it would be more honest to do it directly, by appointing a throat-cutter to the parish.

I blame the Poor Law surgeons for agreeing to do certain things which cannot be done at a profit, and I have censured the guardians for taking advantage of the unfortunate state of the profession, and fixing a sum for services, well knowing they cannot be rendered at the price. What is to be the remedy, and when it is to be applied, is not very clear or certain. Will it be necessary for the Poor Law surgeons to strike, supported by the whole profession?

Another evil of considerable magnitude is the low scale of club practice, and the tickets for medical relief, sold at hucksters' shops, by the so-called self-supporting dispensaries. Both these systems lower and degrade the profession, reducing it to the level of a bad competing trade. It is obvious to all that three shillings and twopence cannot pay for medical attendance and medicine for three weeks. It of necessity involves—either working at a loss, or neglect of duty. The hospitals and other public medical institutions of large towns are

open to the poor; and there is, I think, no excuse for the existence of the practice, which I believe is a result, and a very fatal result, of the grinding competition going on in all professions and trades of the country.

I do not for a moment deny the advantages of co-operation and combination, by individuals in societies, to procure medical relief and surgical aid; but I contend that a well-regulated tariff of charges is as essential to the well-being of such societies, as it is just to the medical officers. The reform of this abuse rests with the general practitioners themselves, and would be readily accomplished on the principle leading to the formation of these societies—by coöperation and mutual agreement, and also by explanations, by conference, and by reference. I have spoken thus of these grievances, because they are serious in themselves, and because they press with hardship on young beginners in medical practice.

The common mode of election to public medical appointments in this country is not perfect, nor quite in accordance with the rules of common sense. It entails, First.—A reference to persons unable to judge of medical knowledge, and of skill in its application. Second.—It brings a heavy expenditure on candidates for unpaid appointments. Thirdly.—A popular election, with its attendants, is not, I think, the best mode of filling up medical vacancies, nor very conducive to the honour and dignity of the

Médecin. Cabs and cars hastening to and fro, placarded with, in huge letters—"Vote for Dr. A.," or "Vote for Dr. B.," smacks unpleasantly of town councilism, and pot-and-kettleism at a general election; and ill becomes the sober studies and sedate pursuits of physicians and surgeons. Far better, in my opinion, would be a board, capable of judging of and carefully weighing the qualifications of the candidates, acting under the freest publicity, and stating always the grounds of selection and election.

There are many other evils which afflict our profession; in common with others, we have to bear our share of ingratitude, forgetfulness, and injustice. How discouraging is it to the struggling general practitioner, after a long and anxious attendance on a serious illness, having had much ill temper and worse usage to put up with, to be asked insinuatingly to send in his little bill, and then find his moderate charges grumbled at. And not only grumbled at, but, perhaps, never paid at all. There is not a surgeon in general practice in the country but can attest the truth of the old lines—

"God and the doctor we alike adore,
When in danger—not before :
The danger o'er, both are requited,
God is forgotten and the doctor slighted."

But I forbear to dwell longer on the dark side of human nature. Yet there is another subject, in which the Profession itself is at fault, which

cannot be passed over. I allude to the readiness with which medical practitioners appear against each other in courts of law. The wrangling and contention too often displayed by them there in mere matters of opinion serve neither the ends of justice nor the elevation of the Medical Profession in the eyes of the public; much of the evidence adduced is utterly worthless, and, in the majority of cases, refers to circumstances and appearances observed long after the alleged neglect or malpractice occurred; and of others, how unfair, unjust, and uncharitable is it to say, when a case is fully developed from observations *then*, that it ought to have been diagnosed at first, when in embryo? Take a not uncommon case in illustration. A man receives an injury to a joint, attended by enormous swelling of the soft parts, rendering it impossible to ascertain its precise nature at first: now suppose, after a while, the patient becomes dissatisfied and goes off to another surgeon—perhaps a rival—who deals mysteriously with the case, finds some little bone displaced or broken, and puts the limb into splints; but the patient does not recover, from the extensive injury done, full power over the limb. There is an outcry got up, which ends in an action being brought against the surgeon for damages. Well, he may meet the matter in two ways. *First*, his friends may advise him, to avoid the worry of the action and possible injury to his reputation, to settle the affair by paying a sum of money. He

may decline to do this, feeling assured of the rectitude of his conduct, and that the treatment he adopted was the best under the circumstances; and allow the matter to go into court. Now, what follows? This: we have professional witnesses of standing for the prosecution, and we have professional witnesses of standing for the defence, diametrically opposed to each other in evidence; and we have twelve men, honest we will admit, but wholly ignorant of professional subjects, and therefore incapable of judging to weigh and settle the difference. I demur to the tribunal, and say it is not competent to decide such a matter as this. Of course, and I am ready to admit much will depend on the direction of the judge, who may see through an attempt to extort money, and sum up accordingly; but whether the case is decided for or against the surgeon it is sure to prove injurious to him. If a sensitive man, it may be long before he recovers from the shock; and, however decided, he is certain of a bill of costs. Of course, where there has been neglect and culpable ignorance and the patient has suffered thereby, let the man be punished for his ignorance and neglect; but, I maintain, many of the actions commenced against medical practitioners ought never to have been entered at all, and the appearance of professional witnesses in support of them is discreditable and disgraceful.

Again, it is a question whether some change is

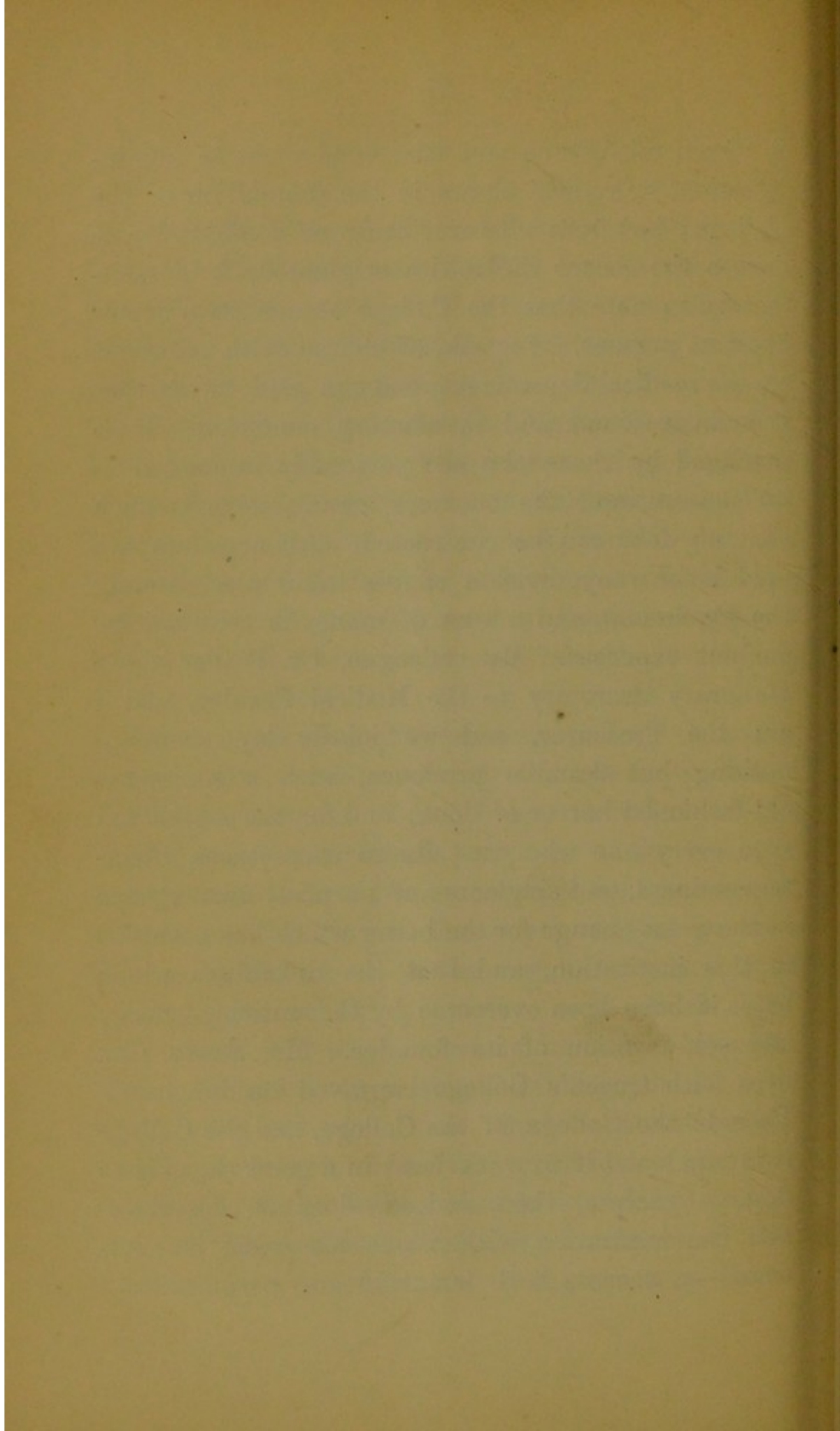
not required with respect to the mode of obtaining scientific evidence; whether, instead of witnesses for the prosecution and witnesses for the defence, it would not be better for the investigation to be committed into the hands of two or three scientific persons to act as a commission, irrespective of both parties, and give evidence as such on the matter referred to them at the trial. I think this plan would be far more likely to secure impartial, unbiased evidence than the present system, which, selecting a scientific witness, or expert, as he is now called, for one side or the other, makes him more or less an advocate and a partisan.

I have thought it right, Gentlemen, to point out to you a few of the evils you may have to contend with when settled as practitioners of medicine; but you will not despair when you remember we live in an age when every abuse and grievance may be inquired into and rectified or redressed; when the bright light of publicity may be shed in dark places and obscure doings illuminated; when the bats and owls of a pseudo civilisation may be discovered and put to flight; when false systems may be put into crucibles and the good, if any, separated from the dross; when, soon it is to be hoped, money and the possession of money will not be deemed the sole object of life; when the question will be not what a man has, but what he has done and can do; and, finally, when the good qualities of the heart as well as wealth of mind will be appreciated and rewarded.

You must also remember the Profession is now in direct communication with Government, and that the General Medical Council constitutes a body the Profession must look to for the reform of proved abuses, so far as they can be remedied by legislative action, initiated by authoritative recommendations and suggestions from the Council to the Secretary of State for the Home Department. I am inclined, then, to take rather a hopeful view of the future prospects of our Profession, and to believe the administration of this Council and its regulations will be fraught with good—will tend to increase its utility and give it a position commensurate with the advantages and benefits it confers on the community.

Before concluding this address, perhaps I ought to say a few words respecting the present position of this institution. I am happy to refer you to the improved and altered prospects of the Queen's College, and to its advance in public confidence and estimation. Looking to the powers vested in this College by the crown, to the district in which it is situated, and to the population with which it is surrounded, and to the obvious want it is capable of supplying, it is surprising the College should ever need friends and supporters. Such a state of things could only result from the operation of several causes. 1. Either from a want of knowledge on the part of the community of the advantages of the institution, or carelessness in appreciating them.

2. From misfortune and mismanagement in administration, or radical errors in the foundation of the College; but from whatever cause or combination of causes the recent difficulties originated, it is satisfactory to note that the College stands on a firmer basis at present. I speak, of course, with reference to the medical department, and am glad to say that it is in a sound and satisfactory condition. It is managed by those who are personally interested in its success, and the business arrangement is such that no debt can be contracted. All accounts are paid before any division of fees takes place among the Professors, and a sum of money is reserved for current expenses. My colleague, Dr. WADE, is the Honorary Secretary to the Medical Faculty, and I am the Treasurer, and we jointly lay claim to nothing but humble prudence, with a somewhat old-fashioned horror of debt; and for the rest, I am sure every one who can admire earnestness, disinterestedness, and singleness of purpose, must rejoice in the great change for the better which has occurred in this institution, and that the difficulties which beset it have been overcome by the untiring energy and self-devotion of its founder. Mr. SANDS COX lives with Queen's College engraved on his heart. He is in the College, of the College, and the College is in him; and if to work hard in a good cause is to deserve success, then, indeed, does he deserve—and the institution with which his name is associated—a success both bountiful and permanent.



PRIZES, 1861-2.

(AWARDED BY PROFESSOR POSTGATE, F.R.C.S., &c., OCTOBER 1st, 1862.)

WINTER SESSION, 1861-2.

ANATOMY.—Professor FURNEAUX JORDAN; TAYLOR, medal and first certificate; MACKEY, OWEN, and PAYN, *æq.*, second certificates.

SURGERY.—Professor SANDS COX; LLOYD, medal and first certificate; HINDS and STEWART, *æq.*, second certificates.

CHEMISTRY.—Professor ANDERSON; MACKEY, medal and first certificate; BEACH, second certificate.

MEDICINE.—Professor WADE; CARREG, medal and first certificate; LLOYD, second certificate.

PRACTICAL ANATOMY.—Professor FURNEAUX JORDAN and Dr. B. WALTER FOSTER; TAYLOR, medal and first certificate; OWEN and PAYN, *æq.*, second certificates.

PHYSIOLOGY.—Professor LAWSON; MELSON, medal and first certificate; HINDS, second certificate and second medal.

SUMMER SESSION, 1862.

MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE.—Professor POSTGATE; MELSON, medal and first certificate; LLOYD, second certificate.

PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY.—Professor ANDERSON; LLOYD, medal and first certificate; MACKEY, second certificate.

MIDWIFERY.—Professor CLAY and Dr. SUCKLING; CHEATLE, medal and first certificate; GIBBS, second certificate; TAYLOR, third certificate, special.

BOTANY.—Professor HINDS; MACKEY, medal.

MATERIA MEDICA.—Professor DIVERS; BAXTER, medal and first certificate; LEWIS, second certificate.

CLINICAL MEDICINE.—Professor WADE; TAYLOR, first prize; CARREG, second prize.

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT.—Dr. B. WALTER FOSTER; SAWYER, first certificate for general proficiency.

FRENCH PRIZE.—SAWYER.

WARNEFORD ESSAY.—Under adjudication with Professor Dr. WADE.

FELLOWSHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND PRIZES,

OFFERED FOR THE YEARS 1862-3.

WARNEFORD MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIPS.—Four Medical Scholarships have been founded by the Rev. Dr. WARNEFORD, to the value of £10 each, to be held for two years; to be conferred upon the Students who have resided in the College at least twelve months, who have been distinguished for their diligence and good conduct, who have been regular in their attendance on "*Divine Service*," and whose attendance at the Warneford Lectures has been regular.

WARNEFORD GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS.—The essays written for these Prizes to be "of a religious as well as scientific nature; the subject to be taken out of any branch of Anatomical, Physiological, or Pathological Science, to be handled in a practical or professional manner, and according to those evidences of facts and phenomena which Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology so abundantly supply; but always and especially with a view to exemplify or set forth, by instance and example, the Wisdom, Power, and Goodness of God, as revealed and declared in Holy Writ." Subject—"The Anatomy and Physiology of the Kidney."

THE FOUNDER'S SCHOLARSHIP.—To encourage and reward a good general education in Medical Students entering the College, a Scholarship of £10 per annum, tenable for two years, has been instituted by WILLIAM SANDS COX, F.R.S. There must not be less than three competitors.

HONORARY MEDALS are annually given on a Public Examination, for proficiency in the respective departments of Medical Science.

CERTIFICATE OF HONOUR.—Students who may, after Examination, be placed by the Professor next to the Medallist, will receive a Certificate of Honour.

CLINICAL MEDICAL PRIZE.—The Council is enabled, by the liberality of Professor Dr. WADE, to offer a Prize of Five Guineas for regularity of attendance on the Medical Practice of the Queen's

Hospital, and the Medical Clinical Lectures, together with the best report of medical cases occurring in his practice.

CLINICAL SURGICAL PRIZE.—The Council is enabled, by the liberality of Professor SANDS COX, to offer a Prize of Five Guineas for regularity of attendance on the Surgical Practice of the Queen's Hospital, and the Surgical Clinical Lectures, together with the best report of surgical cases occurring in his practice. There must not be less than three competitors.

THE PERCY PRIZE.—The Council is enabled, by the liberality of Dr. PERCY, Professor of Metallurgy, Government School of Mines, to offer Books of the value of Five Guineas to the Student attending Lectures in German, who may pass the best examination in two German works. There must not be less than two competitors.

THE CLAY PRIZE.—The Council is enabled, by the liberality of Professor CLAY, to offer Books of the value of Five Guineas to the Student attending Lectures in French, who may pass the best examination in two French works. There must not be less than two competitors.

WARNEFORD THEOLOGICAL SCHOLARSHIPS (four in number, £10 each) are awarded at the close of the Trinity term to those Instudents, of not less than three terms standing, who shall in the judgment of the committee be most deserving.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS.—Students of the College are admitted to Examination for the Scholarships, Exhibitions, Gold Medals, and Books, offered by the Senate of the University of London, and the Royal College of Surgeons.

