

**Professor Pattison's statement of the facts of his connexion with the University of London / [Granville Sharp Pattison].**

**Contributors**

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University of London.

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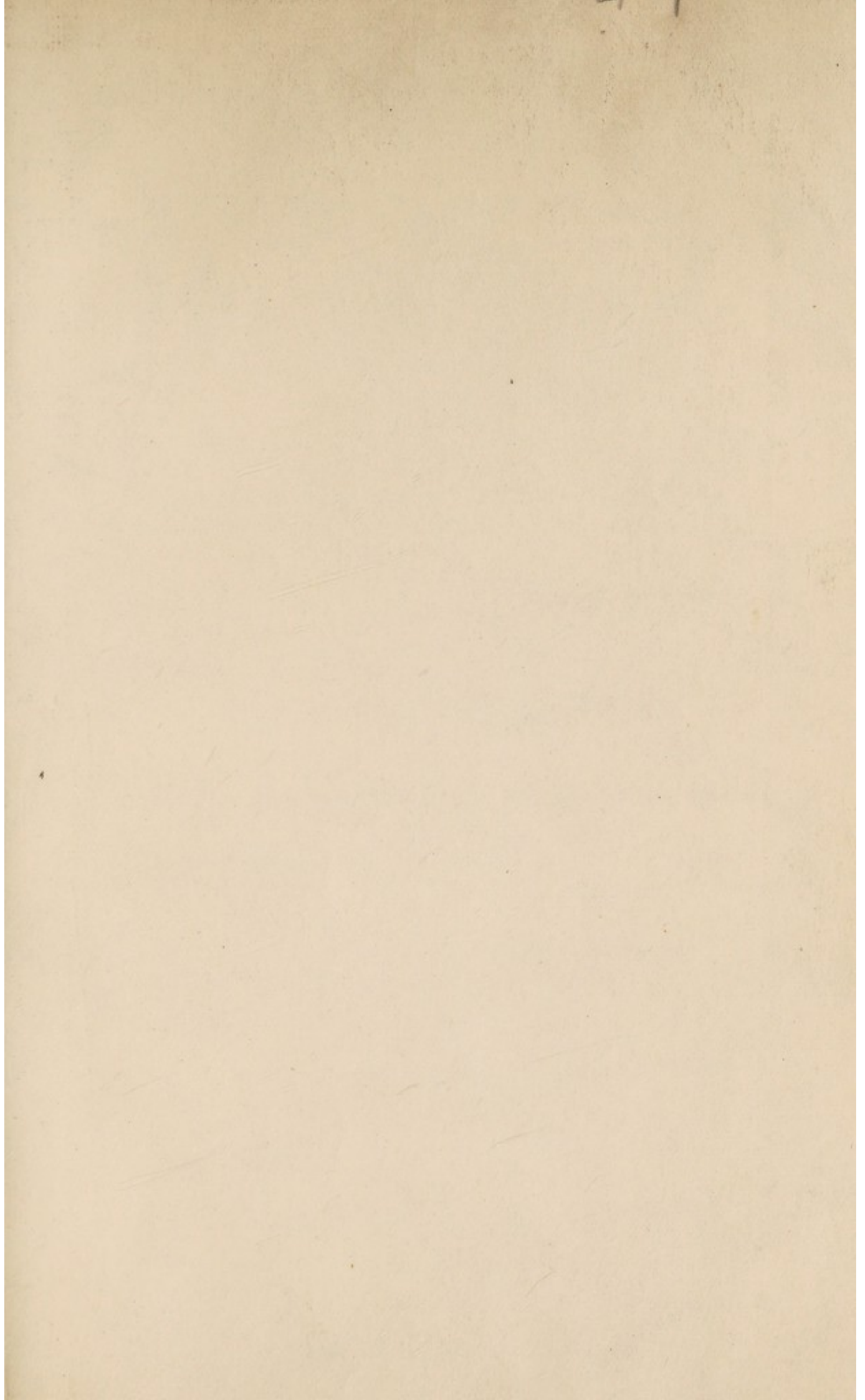
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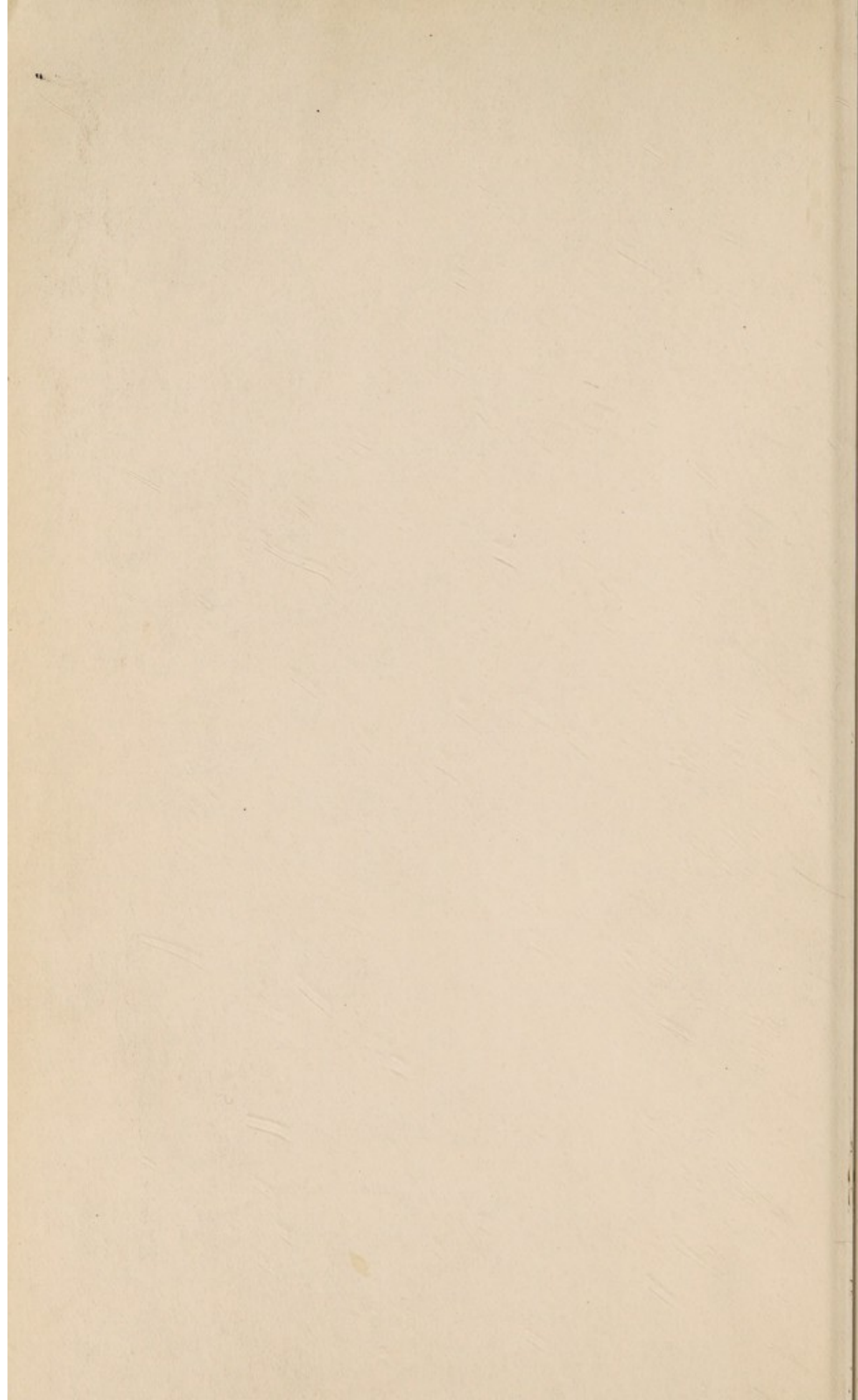


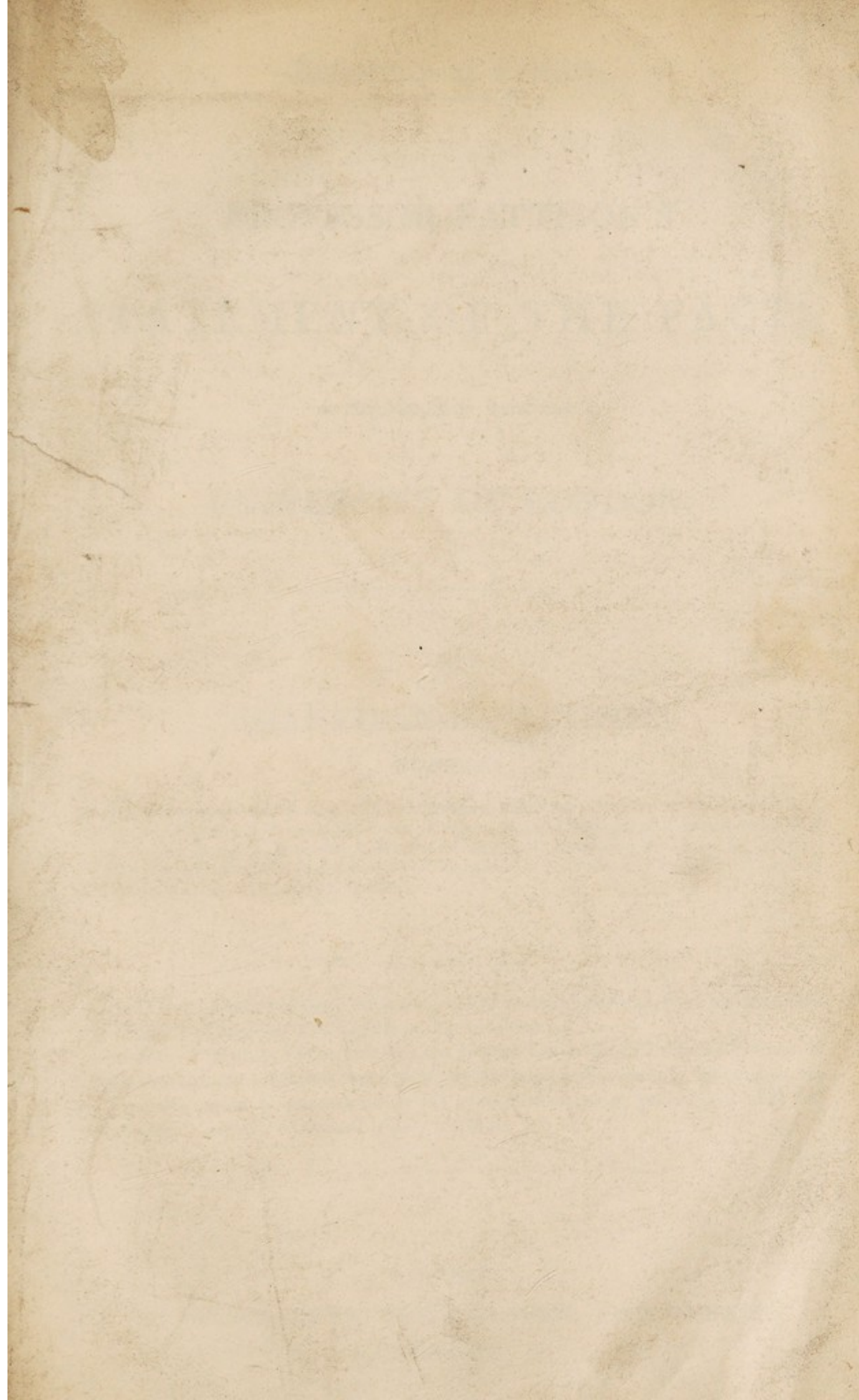
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University of London.

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PROFESSOR PATTISON'S  
STATEMENT OF THE FACTS

OF HIS CONNEXION WITH THE

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

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BY

GRANVILLE S. PATTISON,  
*SURGEON,*

Member of the Wernerian Society of Natural History, Edinburgh; Member of the Société Philomatique and Société Médicale d'Emulation of Paris; formerly Professor of Anatomy, Physiology, and Surgery in the Andersonian University of Glasgow; afterwards Professor of Anatomy, Physiology, and Surgery in the University of Maryland, U. S.; and lately Professor of Anatomy and Surgery in the University of London.

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*Resolved*,—"That Professor Pattison be, and he is hereby removed, from his situations of Professor of Anatomy and Surgery in this University.

*Resolved*,—"That, in taking this step, the Council feel it due to Professor Pattison to state, that nothing which has come to their knowledge with respect to his conduct has in any way tended to impeach either his general character or professional skill and knowledge."—*Minute of Council of July 23, 1831.*

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LONDON:

LONGMAN, REES, ORME, BROWN, AND GREEN.

MDCCCXXXI.



University of London

PROFESSOR PATTISON'S

STATEMENT OF THE FACTS

ON HIS CONNECTION WITH THE



UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

BY

GRANVILLE PATTISON

LONDON :

PRINTED BY WILLIAM CLOWES,  
Stamford Street.

Member of the Anatomical Society of London; Fellow of the Royal Society; Member of the Royal Society of Medicine; and Honorary Member of the Royal Society of Edinburgh; formerly Professor of Anatomy, Physiology, and Surgery in the University of Glasgow; and formerly Professor of Anatomy, Physiology, and Surgery in the University of London; and lately Professor of Anatomy and Surgery in the University of London.

Witnessed—That Professor Pattison is, and he is hereby proved, from his situation of Professor of Anatomy and Surgery in the University of London; and that in taking this step the Council had in view the fact that Professor Pattison is a man of high standing in the medical profession, and that his conduct has been such as to command the respect and confidence of his colleagues; and that in any way needed to the work which he has undertaken, and that his knowledge is of a high order.

LONDON:

LONGMAN, REES, GREEN, AND GREEN

PRINTERS

## P R E F A C E.

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IT being my anxious wish, in preparing the following Statement, not to mistake or exaggerate any of the facts, I addressed a letter to the Council, requesting them to furnish me with certain minutes and other documents in their possession. Although some of these were *private* letters, addressed to myself, which I was certainly entitled to demand, my request was refused, as the following note will prove:—

“ *University of London, 30th July, 1831.* ”

“ Dear Sir,

“ I laid before the Council your letter to them of yesterday, asking them for copies of certain documents in their hands; and I am directed by them to inform you, that they decline giving these to you for the purpose of publication, as specified in your letter.

“ I am, dear Sir,

“ Very faithfully yours,

“ THOMAS COATES.

“ *G. S. Pattison, Esq.* ”

Unwilling to publish my statement until I had received an assurance that the facts detailed in it were correctly stated, I sent the proof to Dr. Birkbeck, *who has been a member of the Council since the University was first established*, and begged him to read it carefully over, and give me his opinion as to whether I had or had not exaggerated the facts of the proceedings of the Council, and of the treatment I had received. It affords me much satisfaction to be enabled to publish the following letter from that distinguished individual, who, as the only medical gentleman who was a member of the Council, was best qualified to judge of my merits, and whose declaration that the facts of my case “ARE REMARKABLY FREE FROM EXAGGERATION,” must remove all doubt as to their truth:—

“ *50, Broad-street, August 10th, 1831.* ”

“ My dear Sir,

“ I have perused, with painful interest, your Statement of the extraordinary events which have occurred

since you were appointed Professor of Anatomy in the University of London. I know that it has always been your anxious wish to detail with perfect accuracy the transactions connected with this appointment, and I therefore regret that the Council have not granted you access to all the documents which you might require for that purpose. I can assure you, however, that recurring to a memory too strongly impressed by the occurrences to allow them easily to escape, the facts belonging to your case, with which I have been conversant, are always substantially and generally minutely correct, and your statements altogether remarkably free from exaggeration.

“What may be the result of your appeal to the public, I cannot determine: it will however, I believe, be very different from that which I have had the misfortune to witness amongst men making large pretensions to the possession and exercise of just and liberal sentiments. To three parties, allowed to fall into confusion and hostility,—insubordinate Students, a governing Council, and an insulted Professor,—these individuals have been unable to apply any means of correction, excepting the expulsion of the party whose only discoverable share in the mischief has been enduring unmerited opposition. It is surely possible that another view of what is just, and of what is necessary for the preservation of the London University, may be entertained by rational and unprejudiced judges.

“I remain, with sincere regard,

“My dear Sir,

“Ever faithfully yours,

“GEORGE BIRKBECK.

“G. S. Pattison, Esq.”

## STATEMENT,

&c.

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It is exceedingly painful to be forced to appear before the public in vindication of one's own character; but, from the course which has been pursued by the Council of the University of London, and from the manner in which my reputation has been slandered, no alternative is left me. I, therefore, now address myself to the Proprietors of the University, and to the public; and I trust that the statement of facts which I shall lay before them will be examined without prejudice. I ask no favour, but I demand justice; and I feel persuaded that no man of honour can peruse the following pages without being convinced that a case of more heartless persecution, of more crying injustice, was never before submitted to the public.

In the following statement I shall give—First, The history of my appointment to the Chair of Anatomy;—secondly, I shall detail the intrigues, vexations, and persecutions to which I have been subjected during my connexion with that Institution;—and lastly, I shall conclude with a few observations on the operation of the proceedings which have been instituted against me, both as they affect my interests and reputation, and the character and prosperity of the University.

I. When I became a candidate for the Chair of Anatomy in the University of London, I occupied a similar Professorship in the University of Maryland, from which I derived, with the practice of my profession, an income of above 2000*l.* per annum. It was an income which was rapidly improving, as the number of pupils increased, during the five years I was connected with that Institution, from seventy to above three hundred; and the last year I lectured in the University of Maryland there was added to the school above sixty medical pupils. I mention this fact to prove, that in engaging in the service of the University of London, I made a great sacrifice; and that I could only have been induced to do so from the very flattering representations which were held out by the Council as to the emoluments and honour to be obtained from a connexion with the University over which they presided—expectations which, I believe, would have been fully realized, had its affairs been properly administered.

My election took place under very particular circumstances, and was only determined on after the most mature deliberation. Mr. Charles Bell, Mr. Mayo, and some others of the most distinguished anatomists of this country, were competitors; and as I was not personally known to a single member of the Council before the date of my becoming a candidate, and as no little calumny had been circulated by my enemies against me, it is not to be credited that I should have been elected, unless I had furnished the most unquestionable evidence of my eminence as an anatomist. There was assuredly no favouritism in my appointment; and when the talents for investigation of the distinguished members of Council who formed the

Education Committee, and the patient and persevering zeal with which they examined the pretensions of the candidates, are considered, I would ask, is it to be believed, considering the gentlemen they had to select from, that they could have been so egregiously duped as to choose for their Professor of Anatomy a person so ignorant of the science, as to have his anatomical knowledge questioned on the representation of a student?

The testimonials which I laid before the Council will be admitted by every one who reads them to be of a very high character. I am told that one of my late colleagues, Dr. A. T. Thomson, has lately been very active in decrying them, and has declared that testimonials are no evidence of qualification; and has, moreover, stated, that he could obtain for any person he might apply for, any amount of such evidence of talent and fitness for a professorship. I shall not pretend to deny the ability of that individual to procure testimonials, the rather as I am aware that he himself laid before the Council a considerable number of these documents, of which he was not a little vain. I will even agree with him in admitting that testimonials which merely express *an opinion* as to the capacity for office are not very difficult to procure. I rest, however, the value of my testimonials, not on the opinions, but on the facts which they establish, and which are to the following effect:—

First,—That having commenced teaching anatomy and surgery in Glasgow when I was only twenty years of age, although I had as a rival Dr. Jeffery, the Professor of Anatomy in the University of that city, who, it is admitted, is one of the most eloquent and popular teachers of that science who has ever delivered lectures in these countries,—the “attractions of my manner and the extent of my reputation” were such, that I was obliged, although my theatre was a large one, to refuse, every year I lectured in Scotland, applications for tickets of admission, from there not being room to accommodate all the applicants.

Secondly,—Having been invited to go to the United States, to occupy the Chair of Anatomy in the University of Pennsylvania, I found, on my arrival in that country, that, not expecting me to come, the chair had been already filled. I was therefore under the necessity of commencing Lectures on Anatomy and Surgery in Philadelphia, where the University is situated, as a private lecturer; yet, under all the disadvantages to which a stranger is necessarily subjected, and although every impediment to my success was opposed by the Professors of the University, I succeeded in obtaining a class of above one hundred and ninety students. Not only thus; the celebrity of my lectures induced the University of Maryland to send a deputation of the Regents of that institution to request me to accept of a Professorship in their University.

Thirdly,—My success as a teacher of Anatomy and Surgery in Baltimore will be best shown by the following extract from a letter written by a distinguished physician of that city:—“But it fortunately happens that the high qualifications of Professor Pattison, as a teacher of Anatomy and Surgery, do not rest alone on what, perhaps, some may deem the partial testimony of his friends. The sudden and rapid increase of the University of Maryland presents a noble and unquestionable monument of his abilities and success in these respects. At the time he became connected with it, in the year 1820, the Institution exhibited the most gloomy aspect: the number of pupils was small, not exceeding seventy or eighty; the buildings were dilapidated; the University overwhelmed with debt; and it was

surrounded by formidable rivals, animated by every motive to exertion. It now presents a picture entirely the reverse. The number of pupils during the past winter exceeded three hundred; the buildings have been greatly extended, and rendered elegant and convenient, so that, in these respects, they will compare not unfavourably with any institution in the world; its pecuniary embarrassments have been entirely relieved, and its finances are at present in the most flourishing condition. I will not undertake to assert that this surprising revolution is *solely* attributable to the talents and exertions of Professor Pattison; but that his attractions as a public teacher of Anatomy and Surgery, and the energy of his character, which will not suffer him to confine himself to the mere duties of the lecture-room, are among the principal and most efficient causes, is a fact of public notoriety, and would, I believe, be universally admitted."

Now, however lightly Dr. A. T. Thomson may attempt to treat my testimonials, I assert that the foregoing facts incontestably establish my capacity as a popular teacher of Anatomy and Surgery.

Strong as the documents which I laid before the Council were, I was most anxious that they should not decide upon them alone. I addressed letters to Lord Brougham and to Mr. Thomas Campbell, both members of the Council, pressing them to decide the election by a "*concourse*," in which I declared my willingness to engage with the other candidates. This, however, they did not consider necessary.

Immediately after my appointment, I was requested to visit Germany on the business of the University. When the application was made, I stated, that as the University did not open for eighteen months, it was my intention to have returned to the United States, and deliver another course of lectures; that my circumstances would not admit of my remaining in London without an income for so long a period; but if it was considered that my services could be of benefit to the University, I would willingly consent to remain, and devote my time and attention to its interests, sacrificing the large pecuniary reward which I should have obtained by a visit to the States, on the condition of my receiving a small salary. I was assured that a salary of 300*l.* per annum would be paid to Dr. Lardner and myself from the day of our appointments. With this promise I was perfectly contented, and having received 100*l.* for expenses, I immediately set out on my tour. I spent, during my travels, 130*l.*; and when I applied at the end of the year for my salary, I was informed, that as no minute had been entered that I was to receive a salary, although the fact of the promise having been made me was not attempted to be denied, the Council did not feel bound to pay me anything for my services, nor for the very heavy expenses I incurred in remaining in London. I felt this to be an act of great injustice, but I submitted to it without any complaint. That the Council were satisfied with my services, although they refused to allow me any remuneration for them, will appear from the following extract of a letter which I received after my return from Germany, from Lord Brougham:—"I am happy to find but one opinion in the Council, which entirely coincides with my own, as to your excellent and effectual services on your mission. It was impossible to have executed its duties better," &c.

II. The first grievance to which I shall advert is that of the appointment of the late Mr. Bennett to the situation which he occupied,—one unheard of in any other medical institution in Europe, and one, the necessary operation of which must have been apparent, viz., to create an officer whose

duties intimately associated him with the pupils, and whose interest it was to elevate himself by bringing the talents and the reputation of the Professor into disrepute with his students. The appointment of that gentleman was not even hinted at, until nearly a year after my election had taken place; and the Council must admit, that before they decided on it, they were fully warned of the injurious influence which it would necessarily exert on my interests, and on the harmony and prosperity of the medical school. Dr. Birkbeck, the only medical man on the Council, and whose opinion on matters of this kind ought to have had some weight with his colleagues, was loud in his reprobation of the measure. Indeed, as if endued with the spirit of prophecy, he predicted as the consequence of appointing a Demonstrator, who was to be wholly independent of his Professor, much of what has since occurred; but his forebodings were not attended to by the Council, and Mr. Bennett was appointed.

The lectures commenced in the Medical School of the University on the 1st of October, 1828; and for the first few months of the session—that is to say, before the intrigues which were in operation against me had time to exert their baneful influence—nothing could be more gratifying than the manner in which my lectures were received both by my pupils and the public. I was congratulated by my colleagues on my success and popularity: and I felt the satisfaction which I had invariably experienced as a teacher, of being esteemed and respected by *all* my pupils, and of having my character justly estimated by my colleagues—at least by all of them who had not a sinister interest in being dissatisfied with my success. This happy state of things did not, however, continue long; and I only advert to it as an evidence, that until the influences to which I have above alluded came into play, I was considered in the University of London a popular and instructive teacher. The first charges which were made against me came in the form of anonymous complaints. I confess, when I was told that communications of such a nature were received against a Professor, I felt some astonishment; but, conscious that I had most fully performed my duty, I courted investigation, even on anonymous complaints. A full inquiry was entered into, and the result was what I anticipated—the charges were found groundless. Having disposed of these anonymous complaints, I certainly expected that in future the Council would refuse to listen to others of a similar nature; but in this expectation I was disappointed. Two months did not elapse before new, but still anonymous, charges were communicated to the Council. These again were honoured with attention: another investigation of my conduct took place, and Mr. Hume was requested by the Council to examine them. That gentleman, who I have the satisfaction of saying inquired into them with the strictest impartiality and fairness, announced to the Council, that there was no legitimate ground of complaint, either as related to the supply of subjects furnished for my class, or as to the mode in which I conducted my lectures. The first session had now nearly come to a close; but it was not permitted to terminate without another outrage on my feelings and character.

At the distribution of the honours to the medical pupils, I had occasion to read a passage from one of the papers of the gentleman who obtained my gold medal, and to comment, with some warmth, on the excellence of the answer, and the evidence it furnished of the anatomical information of my pupil. This was, however, displeasing to Mr. Bennett;

and as Dr. Turner, who sat next to him on this occasion, observes, "*His conduct was exceedingly indecorous. His expressions of disapprobation were so loud, and his gestures so eager,*" that Dr. Turner "*was quite alarmed, and felt it necessary not to lose a moment in pacifying him.*" The intention of this manifestation of disapprobation was easily interpreted. It was intended to convey the impression to those around him, that what I read was in error, and that the Professor of Anatomy was so ignorant of his subject as to be unable to detect the anatomical blunders it contained. The matter was not permitted to rest here: my enemies, flattering themselves that by giving a sufficient circulation to this story, which they considered an incontestable evidence of my ignorance of anatomy, my reputation as an anatomical teacher would be ruined, took great pains to give it ample circulation. Who they were, and what measures they pursued to accomplish their purpose, I shall not stop to state; but their exertions were most successful, and almost every medical man in the kingdom had this pretended evidence of the ignorance of the Professor of Anatomy of the University of London detailed to him!

As very often happens in similar cases, the person whose character was traduced was the last to hear of it. It was four months after the occurrence took place, before it was even hinted to me, that the correctness of the description I had read at the public ceremonial had been questioned. Then, indeed, I heard enough of it. From all parts of the country I learnt that the subject was one of general conversation among medical men; and the inquiry of every person was, what could have induced the Council to appoint to the Chair of Anatomy a person so ill-qualified for so important an office. Justly incensed that my character should have been so gratuitously attacked, and satisfied that I could not possibly have read any description which could warrant the stories in circulation, I came to an immediate rupture with Mr. Bennett, and addressed the Council on the subject.

In the text I shall only insert an extract from the second letter which I addressed to the Council. It shows the effect which the circulation of this calumny had in distant parts of the country on my reputation, and contains evidence of its falsehood. The first letter I have inserted below: it will prove the nature of Mr. Bennett's office, and its injustice as affecting my interests\*:

\* 8, Old Burlington Street, August 7, 1829:

My Lords and Gentlemen,

WHEN the Council last year decided that the Pupils should be permitted, after attending the Professor of Anatomy one session, to attend the Demonstrator without entering for the Anatomical Class, I stated, that if this was to be permitted, the interests of the Anatomical Professor would be sacrificed to those of his assistant; but, as I was informed that this regulation was merely made for the session, and as, from its being the first, it could not operate to my prejudice, I did not consider it necessary, *at that time*, to protest against it. Being informed, however, that the Council have resolved that this resolution shall continue in operation, I am induced to trouble you with the present communication, and to entreat you to adopt such measures as shall protect me in my just rights as your Professor of Anatomy.

No man was ever more solicitous to obtain an appointment, than I was to secure the Chair of Anatomy in the University of London; but I would at the same time observe that, in accepting that Professorship, I risked a very considerable stake.—My situation in the United States was worth 10,000 dollars per annum, or about 2300*l.* sterling; and it is not to be supposed I should have sacrificed this independence, to be appointed your Professor of Anatomy, had I had the intimation that it was the intention of the Council to make any other anatomical appointment, which could by possibility deduct from the emoluments of the Anatomical Chair. The Council of the University advertised



“As the only other statement in Mr. Bennett’s letter, to which I propose to call the attention of the Council, is one which not only affects my reputation, but likewise involves the interests and the character of the University, as a medical school, I feel assured the Council will permit me

for a “*Professor of Anatomy*!” I became a candidate for the Professorship, under the implied belief that the Professor of Anatomy in the University of London was to enjoy all the emoluments and advantages possessed by Professors of Anatomy in these United Kingdoms; and being elected, influenced by this understanding, I accepted the office, and gave up my valuable situation in America. Not only so: having been appointed in July, 1827, and the Lectures in the University not commencing until October, 1828, I could easily have gone out in the interim to the United States, and delivered another course of Lectures, which would have realised to me at least 1500*l.* sterling; but, it having been considered for the interest of the University that I should go to Germany, I cheerfully made the sacrifice of this sum. I merely advert to these facts, to prove that, in becoming your Professor, I have given up certain valuable considerations, and that I am therefore fully entitled to be supported in my just rights.

The question naturally arises, What are the rights and emoluments of the Professor of Anatomy? I answer, that in Great Britain, and in every Medical Institution in the world where the Professor depends for his income on the fees of his pupils, the emoluments which arise from the Dissecting-rooms form as much a part of the income the Professor of Anatomy as the fees which are paid for attendance on his Lectures. *The Demonstrator, in fact, is the Assistant of the Professor: he is appointed by him, paid by him, and works under his directions.* Now, although, I repeat that, when I accepted the Professorship, I did it under the full belief that I was to enjoy all the advantages which belong to that appointment, still, I admit that, when I learnt that it was the intention of the Council to take the appointment of Demonstrator into their own hands, and to deprive me of the emoluments of the Dissecting-rooms, I offered no objections. But the reason why I offered no objections to this measure was, that I thought all that the Council proposed was to deprive me of a part of my emoluments, and to appoint, themselves, the gentleman who was to be *my Assistant, and who was to act under my directions.* Had I, for a moment, contemplated the possibility of their appointing a separate Anatomical Teacher—a gentleman altogether independent of the Professor of Anatomy—a gentleman who, as the sole director of the Dissecting-rooms, was to banish the Professor from these, the field of his most useful operations, and who, under the name of Demonstrations, was to be permitted to deliver *regular Lectures* on Anatomy, and in these to undersell the Professor,—I should have seen, in his appointment, the ruin of that situation for which I have sacrificed so much, and I should most decidedly, but at the same time most respectfully, have appealed against so great an act of injustice.

I have to beg you, my Lords and Gentlemen, seriously to consider the situation in which I am placed, if the present regulation is not repealed. No student can attend my Lectures *unless he likewise* attends those of the Professor of Physiology; but, if he has attended me one season, he is at full liberty to attend a *Course of Lectures on Anatomy*, delivered by my Assistant—at least by the Gentleman whose office ought to have placed him in that situation. No student will hesitate to pay five pounds for the privilege of attending the Dissecting-rooms, and receiving, not Lectures, but the *familiar Demonstrations which alone ought to be given by the Demonstrator.* But, if that Gentleman is to be permitted to deliver a *regular Course of Lectures* on Anatomy, and to offer this as a bonus to bring Students to the Dissecting-rooms, in a few years very few pupils will be found, who will be disposed, no matter what the abilities and exertions of your Professor of Anatomy may be, to pay nine pounds additional for his Lectures. All the Students must and will dissect. If they are permitted to receive *Lectures on Anatomy*, by merely entering for the Dissecting-rooms, I repeat, that it is very obvious few will enter for the regular Anatomical Lectures. If, therefore, the present regulation is permitted to continue, my Class, and an important source of revenue to the University, is sacrificed. It may be said, my interests are guarded by the laws of the College of Surgeons, which require certificates of attendance on three Courses of Lectures on Anatomy. Allowing the present regulations of the Royal College to continue, still the above regulation does not protect my Class. In a few years many small Anatomical schools will arise in the neighbourhood of the University, and what will be designated as Courses of Lectures on Anatomy will be delivered for very small fees, so that pupils may obtain these for a trifle; and enjoying the benefits of the Anatomical School of the University, by simply entering for the Dissecting-rooms, there is little chance of their becoming pupils of the Anatomical Professor. It is reported, moreover, that the College propose to annul their present laws on the subject of Examinations, and to require no certificates. Should this take place, it is very clear that, if Students can get *Demonstrations which are made regular Lectures on Anatomy* for nothing, (for the five pounds

to refute it more in detail. Mr. Bennett, in his letter to the Council, reiterates his charge, that the extract which I read on the day of the public ceremonial contained errors; and great pains have been taken (as I am informed by Dr. Turner and other persons) to publish this mis-statement

are really paid for the Dissecting-room,) they will not be disposed to pay nine pounds more for another Course of Lectures, merely differing from the gratuitous ones in the name.

Let us suppose that Mr. Cooper, who was a candidate for the Chemical Chair, and who is a popular teacher, had been appointed by the Council Manipulator of Chemistry, and that he was to have been permitted, on the Students paying a fee of five pounds, to admit them to the laboratory, to instruct them in the manipulation of chemistry during the morning, and in the evening to deliver to them, for the same fee, a regular course of lectures on chemistry; I would enquire, would not this permission, eminent as our Professor of Chemistry is in his department, have destroyed the regular Chemical Class? Most unquestionably it would have done so; and no one will deny, but that such an appointment would have been an act of great injustice to the Professor of Chemistry: yet, if the present regulation continues, your Professor of Anatomy is placed precisely in a similar situation.

By a late resolution of Council, it has been determined that, during the incumbency of the present Professor, no second Professors nor Teachers are to be appointed. If the present regulation as to attendance on the Dissecting-rooms be permitted to continue, your Professor of Anatomy is placed in a much worse situation than if a second Professor was appointed. He is obliged to support the class of the Professor of Physiology, whilst the gentleman in the office of his Assistant is permitted to undersell him in a course of Lectures on Anatomy. Is this reasonable or just? The interest of every Professor in the University is guarded, with the single exception of your Professor of Anatomy, whose sacrifices to obtain his situation, and whose zeal in the performance of its duties, he hopes, have not been inferior to those of his colleagues.

When the present Dissecting-rooms were built, I was informed, that the object of having a small theatre connected with them was merely to allow of a more convenient place for giving *occasional demonstrations* to the pupils on the parts they had themselves dissected. This purpose has been entirely departed from; and during last session, this theatre was employed, not for *occasional Demonstrations*, but for *regular and systematic Lectures*. I likewise hear that it is in the contemplation of the Council to build a large Anatomical Theatre for the use of the Demonstrator of Anatomy. Now, if this is done, the consequence will be, that the University of London will have two Professors of Anatomy *in reality*, although not *in name*, and no Demonstrator. The office of Demonstrator to a medical school is one of great importance. Its duties are very different from those of the Professor, but fully as important. They are as follows:—To be *constantly present during the hours of attendance of the Students in the Dissecting-rooms*. To pass from table to table, instructing them in the mode of conducting their dissections, and demonstrating to them from time to time *the parts which they have themselves dissected*. *These demonstrations, and these alone, should be delivered by the Demonstrator*. They should be perfectly familiar, so that the pupil may, if he has any doubts or difficulties, interrupt and interrogate the teacher. How are matters conducted at present? Mr. Bennett, according to his own statement, devotes three hours every day to the duties of his office; one of these hours is occupied by the delivery of *as regular and systematic a Lecture* as that delivered by the Professor, so that only *two* hours remain for performing what are really and truly the duties of the Demonstrator. I assert that this system of conducting the Dissecting-rooms is most injurious to the interest of the Anatomical School of the University. It is my duty, my Lords and Gentlemen, as your Professor of Anatomy, to make this statement; but, the appointment having been made, it is for the Council to determine how the evil is to be remedied: at the same time, it may be proper to remind the Council, that Mr. Bennett was appointed Demonstrator on the express understanding that he was not to deliver demonstrations, unless it should be considered for the interest of the School that he should do so.

There is a subject of complaint to which I now call the attention of the Council. The Demonstrator having, from the assured independent nature of his appointment, been placed, not in the situation of an Assistant, but in that of a rival, to his Professor, it was hardly to have been expected that he would have been found zealous in promoting the interests and the reputation of the head of the Anatomical School. But, although this was scarcely to be expected, still, one would suppose an honourable and well-regulated mind would have been particularly careful not to have been guilty of any act which could by possibility be construed into an attempt to injure the professional character of a gentleman who was placed in so delicate a situation in relation to him. Now, I have every reason to believe that Mr. Bennett has done every thing in his power to ruin my professional reputation with my pupils and with the public. It is true, I cannot estab-

over the whole country. Indeed, Dr. Turner heard so much of it, whilst travelling, that he became very anxious, on his return to town, to examine this description which I had read. Having expressed to me his wish on the subject, I cheerfully complied with it, and delivered to him Mr. Jones's answers, and begged him particularly to examine the description I had read, and compare it with the descriptions of the same nerve given by the highest anatomical authorities. When he had done so, convinced that the charge was without foundation, and feeling like a gentleman and a man of honour, he thought, that when Mr. Bennett was satisfied, by a careful perusal of the passage, that he had been in error, he would at once have made an apology, and, by publishing his own mistakes, attempt to make some reparation for the great injustice and injury he had done me; and he sent for that individual and showed him the description referred to. It appears, however, that after Mr. Bennett has had an opportunity of *deliberately* examining the passage, he still continues to assert, that it contains anatomical blunders; as he has, however, *now* condescended to particularise them, an opportunity is afforded me of proving to the Council, that the hypercritical acumen of the Demonstrator is superior to his anatomical knowledge. In the passage which I read, Mr. Bennett asserts, there are three anatomical errors which he has marked. Now I shall prove that in the first two of these, Mr. Bennett is decidedly wrong, and my pupil correct; and in the third, both descriptions may with strict propriety be employed.

PAPER MARKED No. 4 contains a literal copy of the passage which I read; and the passages which Mr. Bennett has marked as incorrect are underlined.

1st. My pupil states,—that the fifth pair of nerves are nerves of lish the general accusation: but a particular charge I can substantiate; and this being proven, I conceive my suspicions are fully warranted.

It will be recollected by the Council, that on the occasion of the public ceremonial for the distribution of honours to the Medical School, I took occasion to read a passage from one of the answers of one of my prize-men. Whilst doing so, Mr. Bennett, in the most outrageous manner, and in a way to disgust my colleagues who were near him, and to attract public attention, made exclamations to convey the impression that what I read was full of errors, and that I was so ignorant of the subject of which I held the Professorship, as to be unable to detect them. The papers are still in existence, and the fact of the description of the nerve, which I read, being correct, can be easily established. But this is not to the purpose: suppose it had been otherwise, was a public ceremonial the proper occasion to proclaim the supposed ignorance of a Professor of the University? or was it consistent with either good taste or good feeling in any one, much less in the assistant of that Professor, to attempt, at such a time, to create a disgraceful altercation?

I appeal to the Council if I have not invariably, in the performance of the duties of my Professorship, conducted myself with the greatest delicacy towards Mr. Bennett; I appeal to them if I did not request that some other person might be appointed to prepare my class dissections; and lastly, I would inquire of my colleagues, if I have not, in every instance, manifested the utmost anxiety to avoid requiring from him the performance of services which could be construed into an assumption of superiority: yet it appears that such conduct on my part has been met by Mr. Bennett by an attempt to undermine and ruin my reputation as the head of the Anatomical School. Such a course of conduct requires no comment; but it is very certain that, if it is permitted to continue, the School of Anatomy of the University of London will become a scene of the most disgraceful cabal and dissension.

The subject of this letter is one of great importance, and I feel assured it will receive from the Council that consideration which it merits; and that, at all events, I shall be protected in my just rights as your Professor of Anatomy.

I have the honour to be,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servant,

GRANVILLE S. PATTISON.

To the Council of the University of London,

“*sensation.*” Mr. Bennett asserts that the fact is not so. I must confess I could hardly have expected such an assertion from Mr. Bennett. It is true Mr. Bell, in his first experiment, was deceived, and did publish, that the branches of the fifth nerve bestowed *motion and sensation* on the parts on which they were ramified. This *mistake* was, however, speedily discovered by M. Majendie; Mr. Mayo and every anatomist and physiologist are now satisfied that the fifth pair of nerves are nerves of sensation. The third branch of the nerve is joined by a motor twig, after it has passed out of the skull; but as the first and second branches are merely nerves of sensation, in speaking *generally* of the nerve as a *whole*, it would be decidedly incorrect to say that it was a nerve of “*sensation and motion.*”

2nd. My pupil has stated, “*the white filaments do not enter into its formation;*” viz. the ganglion of Gasserius. Mr. Bennett asserts, that Mr. Jones is incorrect in the assertion that the whiter filaments do not enter into this ganglion. Bichat, Cloquet, and all the most distinguished anatomical writers, are of the same opinion as my pupil, and of course differ from Mr. Bennett. The following extracts from “*Bichat, Anatomie Descriptive,*” tome iii. p. 164:—“*Lorsqu’on renverse de dedans en dehors le faisceau aplati des filets du nerf, et le renflement auquel ils se terminent, on voit, comme l’a fait observer Prochaska, qu’entre eux et le rocher les filets antérieurs dont nous avons parlé restent totalement distinct. Leur volume, LEUR BLANCHEUR, leur isolement, les font reconnoître, IL NE S’UNISSENT POINT AU RENFLEMENT (ganglion);*”—and from Cloquet’s “*Anatomie Descriptive,*” tome ii. p. 100:—“*LES FILETS PLUS BLANCS, ILS NE S’ENGAGENT PAS DANS LE GANGLION,*”—will suffice to prove that the description of my pupil is perfectly correct.

3rd. The last passage in the description, marked by Mr. Bennett as an error, is the following line: “*It then (the ophthalmic branch) passes through the sphenoidal fissure, and divides into three branches.*” Mr. Bennett says it divides before it passes into this fissure. Now both descriptions may be said to be correct. One anatomist may say, that the nerve has not passed through the fissure, until it has perforated the dura mater; whilst another may assert, that as the dura mater is reflected through the sphenoidal fissure, and as the nerve does not divide until it touches that membrane, it has, in truth, passed through the fissure before the division takes place. In Mr. W. Bennett’s translation of M. Bayle’s “*Manual of Anatomy,*” the text-book which Mr. Bennett RECOMMENDS AS A GUIDE to his pupils, the description of the point of division is in strict accordance with that given by my pupil, p. 269, “*receiving a twig from the superior cervical ganglion, and traversing the sphenoidal fissure,—IT AFTERWARDS divides into three branches,*” &c.

From this short review it will be observed that Mr. Bennett, and not my pupil, is incorrect as to the anatomy of the fifth pair of nerves. But although I have convicted the demonstrator of being in error, I am very far from assuming from this that he is ignorant of anatomy. No anatomist can bear in his recollection all the minutiae of the science; and there is even no system of anatomy which has ever been published, in which many errors of a much more serious nature than those which Mr. Bennett *erroneously* believed to exist in the *extemporaneous* exercise of Mr. Jones, may not be detected. I admired and lauded Mr. Jones’s description, not as the most perfect which could be composed, but as one which conferred great honour on its author, when it was recollected that he was merely a

student, and that it was given on the spur of the moment, and without the possibility of making preparation.

Mr. Bennett gave his gold medal to a gentleman who was his private pupil, and who resided in his house, and with whose handwriting he must have been familiar. I gave mine to Mr. Jones, who had made, a short time before, a complaint against me to the Council\*. At all events, it must be admitted that the motives which actuated me, must be allowed to be as free from the suspicion of favouritism as those which guided the decision of Mr. Bennett.

Mr. Bennett denies, in his letter to the Council, that there was any thing indecorous in the manner in which he noticed what he considered to be errors in the description. As he appeals to Dr. Turner, I shall not refuse him the benefit of that gentleman's opinion. The following is an extract from a letter from Dr. Turner:—"A regard to truth obliges me to say, that Mr. Bennett's conduct on that occasion was exceedingly indecorous. His *expressions of disapprobation were so loud, and his gestures so eager, that I was quite alarmed*, and felt it necessary not to lose a moment in pacifying him, lest his conduct should be noticed by others."

What could render Mr. Bennett's "*disapprobation so loud, and his gestures so eager?*" Surely it could not have been the errors of the description; for had he been really correct in his opinion, they were not of such a nature as to have excited so much feeling. What can have induced Mr. Bennett to circulate this calumny over the country?

The answer to these queries is, Mr. Bennett is not in his proper situation. He is not what the Demonstrator of Anatomy ought to be, the assistant and coadjutor of the Professor of Anatomy; but he is placed in the situation of being his rival.

Of this last letter no notice was taken. My injured feelings were not soothed even by an assurance from the Council that they were satisfied a great injustice had been done me; nor was a single word of animadversion made on the conduct of Mr. Bennett.

When the correspondence with the Council on the business to which I have alluded took place, there was an act of interference on the part of Mr. Horner, which I consider most unjustifiable, and which I view as most important evidence in establishing the *animus* with which he is actuated, and his desire to promote what I conceive to have been the object of those who have attempted to slander me. That gentleman was, at the time the correspondence referred to commenced, in Scotland; and Mr. Bell had likewise gone into the North. Acting solely on his own authority, and without the most distant hint from me that I would be disposed to give up my professorship, he called on Mr. Bell, who was at the time in Edinburgh, and used his influence with him to accept of my chair; and having prevailed on Mr. Bell (I use his own language) "*to consent to this act of disinterested liberality*," he writes to the Council, without any communication on the subject with me, to recommend them to consummate this measure. The Council, it is true, did not entertain the recommendation of their Warden; but I insist that the recommendation was most unjustifiable, and is an evidence of his feelings towards me.

\* The complaint to which I allude was, that I had acted unfairly in my examination, by allowing to some of the pupils an extension of the time for giving in their "ANSWERS." The truth was, I had told them, when the examination commenced, not to hurry themselves, as I would patiently remain with them as long as they might desire. Mr. Jones had not understood me clearly, and complained,

The second session of the University commenced shortly after the termination of this business ; and Mr. Horner, who had come to town immediately after he had addressed the recommendation to the Council to have me removed from my professorship, left town again for Scotland. During the whole period of his absence, everything went on most tranquilly in the University. The Professors were happy and contented ; each performed, in peace, and without annoyance or disturbance, his vocation. The calm was, however, soon interrupted ; the Warden returned, and dissension and dissatisfaction followed in his train. The irritations and vexations to which my colleagues were subjected, were of that nameless and indescribable character which it is impossible to give a tangible form to, but which nevertheless, make the heart sad, and sicken the spirit ; but to me, as usual, they came in a more palpable form. New charges were hatched, and new suspicions generated ; but as I had most positively stated to the Council that I could not consent, after what had happened during the previous session, to condescend to justify my character on anonymous representation, my accusers now came forward, not openly, but only on condition that their names were to be kept secret ; and, on the representation of such accusers, my conduct was again arraigned. The charges were, however, most distinct ; and it will be observed that they contain not matter of opinion, but of fact. A person may say a lecturer does not express himself clearly ; but as this is mere matter of opinion, it would be difficult for the person against whom the statement is made to disprove it. When, however, it is asserted, that a teacher is desultory in his lectures—that he lectures one day on the eye, and the following day on the bones of the foot ; or when it is asserted that he absents himself from lecture, or does not supply subjects,—all these charges contain matters of fact which may either be established or controverted. Now, the charges made in this instance were of this nature ; they were “ *that of neglecting the business of my class by lecturing in a desultory manner and irregularly, and by failing to supply subjects sufficient for the purpose of effective teaching.*” A Committee, consisting of Messrs. Brougham, Denman, Mill, Warburton, and some other members of Council, whose names I forget, was appointed to investigate them, and a meeting was held at Mr. Brougham’s chambers for that purpose. I proved to these gentlemen, 1st, *By the notebook* of my lectures, that I had never in a single instance deviated from the most regular and systematic course as to the mode of treating the subjects ;—2nd. From the same source, by *the dates*, that I had never missed a single lecture ; and, lastly, by the list of the number of bodies I had procured, that the supply was more than ample ; indeed, that it was so profuse, that I had been unable to employ all the subjects I had purchased, and had therefore made a present of the upper part of a body to Mr. Hind, to prepare for the museum. Mr. Brougham and Mr. Denman, whom I happened accidentally to meet some time afterwards at the Court in Guildhall, it is true, were kind enough to express to me very strongly, that they were fully satisfied that the charges which had been brought against me were without foundation ; but from the Council, to whom my character had been traduced, and who had instituted the investigation, I never had the satisfaction of learning that they were satisfied with my conduct as their professor. Desirous that the matter should be thoroughly sifted, not only as it related to the particular charges advanced by my nameless slanderer, but that a full investigation should be made into all matters relating to my conduct as a professor, and the estimation in which I was

held by my pupils, I requested four of my medical colleagues to institute an inquiry, and to make a report to the Council on the subject. They did so; and the following report was sent in to the Warden.

“ *University of London, December 9, 1829.* ”

“ My Lords and Gentlemen,—We beg leave to address you, very respectfully, on the subject of a complaint lately preferred against the Professor of Anatomy in the University.

“ We are informed by that gentleman, that he has been accused, by persons unwilling openly to appear as his accusers, of neglecting the business of his class, by lecturing in a desultory manner, and irregularly; and by failing to supply *subjects* sufficient for the purpose of effective teaching.

“ Professor Pattison has earnestly requested us, as his medical colleagues, to investigate these serious charges; and, as he has not had an opportunity of confronting his accusers, and has not even been allowed to meet the secret charge by producing witnesses, it has seemed to us that it would be a violation of common justice, and would indicate an absence of all good feeling, if we refused his request.

“ We have, accordingly, conferred with more than half-a-dozen of the anatomical students, being guided in our selection of those entirely by their known industry, respectability, and talent. These students were encouraged to the most frank expression of their sentiments, and their testimony to the following points has been unanimous:—

“ 1. That the supply of subjects in the Anatomical Class has been ample, and, in some respects, even more than sufficient.

“ 2. That the lectures are conducted with perfect regularity, and with strictly systematic order.

“ 3. That the Professor is zealous in the performance of his duty, anxious for the improvement of his class, and esteemed by his pupils as an effective and animated teacher.

“ We have thought it unnecessary to pursue our inquiry further, for no ground for doubt or suspicion has been presented to us; and it appears to us quite indubitable, that the charge brought against our colleague is frivolous and destitute of foundation.

“ It is a duty which we regret that we have to perform, to add, that this inquiry has furnished strong matter of suspicion, that the charges have originated in feelings which are too personal in their nature to deserve the countenance of the Council. We have no wish to heighten the dissensions which exist; but against attacks of this nature no man's character is safe, and, delicate as the subject is, we cannot refrain from warning the members of the Council against the danger of encouraging what must at once disturb and disgrace the Institution.

“ We anxiously hope, that in case of future complaints being made, the accuser will be called upon to support his accusations, and that we may be thus relieved from the degrading and insufferable conviction, that the character of each of us is at the mercy of every worthless, malicious, and designing whisperer.

“ We have the honour to be, my Lords and Gentlemen,

“ Your very obedient, humble servants,

“ J. CONOLLY.

“ ANTONY TODD THOMSON.

“ EDWARD TURNER.

“ DAVID D. DAVIS.”

Of this communication from the Medical Professors *no notice whatever was taken*. I would inquire, whether there is on the records of the University any notice of the complaints of the nameless individual, and of the appointment of a Committee to investigate them? and if so, if there be likewise entered on the same record a Report from that Committee, acquitting me of the charges, and the Report made on the same subject by my colleagues? If it is not so, I am entitled to complain of being most unjustly treated.

The report of my colleagues, I would beg leave to observe, is not only important in so far as it vindicates my character from the specific charges which had been made, and which constituted the subject of the inquiry of the Council, but it is even more important, as it proves that there is an easy explanation of the origin of all the whisperings, the suspicions, and the anonymous charges which had been brought against me. For the Council are distinctly told by my colleagues, "*that this inquiry has furnished strong matter of suspicion, that the charges have originated in feelings which are too personal in their nature to deserve the countenance of the Council.*"

Two of the individuals who signed the report, Drs. Thomson and Turner, having since become most active in their endeavours to drive me from the University, I am told that, with the view of getting over the inconsistency of their conduct, they assert that the students whom they examined when they drew up the report afterwards told them that they had altered their opinions. If they really do say so, the statement they now make bears falsehood on the face of it; for it is not to be credited that students selected for their "*known industry, respectability, and talent,*" who were "*encouraged to the most frank expression of their sentiments,*" and who, after having attended three courses of my anatomical lectures, were "*unanimous*" on the following points,

1. *That the supply of subjects in the Anatomical Class has been ample, and, in some respects, even more than sufficient.*

2. *That the lectures are conducted with perfect regularity, and with strictly systematic order.*

3. *That the Professor is zealous in the performance of his duty, anxious for the improvement of his class, and esteemed by his pupils as an effective and animated teacher,—*

could have had any just grounds, in a few months, afterwards to declare that I was incompetent to teach anatomy.

It will, I think, be admitted from the preceding history, that the conduct which had been pursued by the Council in relation to me up to this period was of a character the most injudicious and unjust. Every complaint, no matter from what source it originated, was listened to and investigated; but as all the investigations, although conducted without any favour to the accused, had terminated in the vindication of my character, I was certainly entitled to expect that for the future I should be permitted undisturbed to perform the duties of my professorship. In this reasonable hope I was disappointed. The Council, after they had been put on their guard by my colleagues, who assured them, in their report, that the inquiry they had instituted had "*FURNISHED STRONG MATTER OF SUSPICION, THAT THE CHARGES WHICH HAD BEEN MADE AGAINST ME ORIGINATED IN FEELINGS WHICH WERE TOO PERSONAL IN THEIR NATURE TO DESERVE THE*



COUNTENANCE OF THE COUNCIL, no sooner had an opportunity of arraigning me on new charges, than they did so, and afforded my accusers every encouragement in their power to substantiate their charges. If the incompetency of the Council for the government of an academical institution has not been already proved by what has been stated, their conduct in the affair of Eisdell will, I think, convince the Proprietors that such is the fact. The following are the facts:—

At the close of the session 1829-30, Mr. Eisdell, a student, whose written examination, delivered at the termination of the same session, convicts him of the most deplorable ignorance of anatomy\*, addressed a letter to the Council, declaring that Mr. Pattison was, in *his opinion*, incompetent to teach anatomy, and that he ought to be dismissed. What proceedings would have been adopted in any other academical institution in the world, had such a letter been received by the governing body? Unquestionably the pupil would either have been immediately expelled for his presumption, or his communication would have been treated with contempt; and it would have been intimated to him, that if he again presumed to dictate to the heads of the University who were competent to hold professorships, his name would be erased from the list of its members. The Council of the London University manage these things differently; and their officer was directed to write to Eisdell, to inform him that "they (the Council) could not institute an examination into the conduct of a professor upon the representation of *one* pupil." What is the simple reading of this note?—"Get some of your fellow-pupils to join you in your charges against your Professor, and we shall with much pleasure listen to your charges." Indeed, Dr. Alexander Thomson, (the son of Dr. A. T. Thomson,) who has acted so disgracefully in these transactions, the intimate friend and coadjutor of Eisdell, and who, according to his own showing, has become "king's evidence†," to prove the existence of a conspiracy against me, states, in a communication which he has published in the "London Medical and Surgical Journal," No. xxix. "That at the same time that Eisdell received this note, he was given to understand, PRIVATELY, that neither the Medical Faculty, as a whole, nor the Council, were averse to the inquiry, though they wished to have more plausible grounds for its institution. Thus encouraged, and believing the ONE, owing to these private hints, to be emphatic, what could Eisdell do but consult with his friends?" &c. &c.—p. 437.

With such encouragement, and with the support of such *private* instigations, it is not to be supposed that Eisdell could find much difficulty in inducing some of the students to unite with him in his complaints; and accordingly fifteen pupils signed, along with him, a memorial, containing certain specific charges, as evidence of my ignorance of anatomy.

Although I felt exceedingly loath to come forward to defend my character from charges coming from pupils, still I was induced, a copy

\* To give my medical reader an idea of his ignorance, one answer will suffice. In describing the foramina of the temporal, he stated that the glassenian fissure gave attachment to the eustachian tube! It is scarcely possible to conceive how a student who had studied anatomy for three months could make such a blunder.

† The following is the passage referred to:—"If Professor Bennett is angry at his letters being published, he must remember that 'the galled jade *will* wince;' that when men conspire with one another to gain an end (as the Professors have done) and then desert their tool, through a grovelling fear even of Mr. Brougham's thunder, he can only defend himself by turning *king's evidence*."—*London Medical and Surgical Journal*, No. xxix, p 441.

of these having been furnished me by the Warden, to see the Council on the subject; and in an interview which I had with them, I proved, apparently to their satisfaction, that the charges were utterly without foundation. Having, as I thought, disposed of these charges, which formed the ground of the inquiry, to my astonishment I learnt, a few days afterwards, that the Warden had, *by the order of Council*, written letters to the complainants, requesting them to send, in writing, any *additional* charges or complaints which they had to urge against my competency or diligence in the discharge of the duties of my office. The fact is one, I admit, which is scarcely to be credited, but it is nevertheless true. It was part of a system for the encouragement of complaints, certainly without a parallel. As the students had gone to the country before they received these letters, in making out the list of their complaints they were no longer able to consult with each other. This was fortunate, as the documents they sent in formed such a tissue of contradictions and absurdities, that, unless some of the Council really felt a gratification in meeting two or three times a week for the purpose of making my life as miserable as possible, they must have put a stop to all further proceedings\*. Such letters were certainly never received by any judicial body; yet the Council of the University of London required a gentleman, who for twenty years had been distinguished as a teacher of anatomy and surgery, to answer them. To my amazement, the letters of the complainants were sent me; and such letters! In one I am accused of not lecturing on a particular organ; in another I am charged with lecturing too long on the very same organ! One student says I was not minute enough in the demonstration of the bones, and another blames me for spending too much of the session in the description of the skeleton: in a word, the contradictions which the letters contained would have convicted their writers, in any court in Christendom, of the most barefaced misrepresentation and malevolence. But *I was required to reply to them*, and I condescended to do so. I proved their falsehood by the contradictions in which they abounded; and I disproved the charge of neglecting to teach the anatomy of certain organs, by bringing forward notes taken in my class-room by other pupils, which proved that the subjects, which it was asserted had not been taught, had been fully demonstrated! The Council, at last, having no ground to rest their charges on, were *compelled* to come to a decision that my character as their Professor was completely vindicated, and that all the charges which had been brought against me were *utterly groundless*†.

\* I applied for copies of these letters, as it will be observed in the letter published in the preface, but was refused; they can, if necessary, be produced by the Council. If they do so, it will be found that I do not exaggerate their contents.

† To give the public an idea of the manner in which the Council suffered the students to address them, I give below a few extracts from one of the memorials sent in to them by Eisdell and others, when the foregoing investigations were going forward: "SHOULD YOU, HOWEVER, NEGLECT OUR PRAYER, WE WARN YOU, THAT WE SHALL PUBLISH THIS VERY APPEAL—SHALL LAY BARE THE DEEP AND UNANSWERED MALIGNITY OF THE MIS-STATEMENTS ATTESTED BY DR. BIRKBECK—THE MEAN, PARTY-SPIRITED, WILFUL DUPLICITY, BY WHICH HE, AS THE SUPPORTER OF MR. PATTISON, TRIED TO MAKE THE PROPRIETORS BELIEVE THAT ONE STUDENT ONLY CHARGED THAT GENTLEMAN, AND THAT AN IGNORANT STUDENT. COULD DR. BIRKBECK, A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL, A CANVASSER FOR MR. PATTISON, THE HEAD OF THE PARTY AGAINST OUR WARDEN, AND THE CULTIVATOR OF THESE CABALS—COULD HE SAY THAT HE WAS IGNORANT OF THE SEVENTEEN PUPILS, INCLUDING THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE MEDALISTS, WHO IN A PHALANX CHARGE MR. PATTISON WITH A PALPABLE DERELICTION OF DUTY, AND URGE HIS DISMISSAL? IF SO, WHY IS HE RETAINED IN THE COUNCIL? DID HE KNOW OF THESE FACTS, WHY DID HE HIDE THEM? BECAUSE HE

An announcement to this effect was communicated to me; and I was requested to meet the Council, to see if measures could not be devised to put a stop to the miserable cabals which had produced such ruinous consequences, and which, if not checked, threatened to overwhelm the Medical School.

At a conference which was held for this purpose, Lord Auckland stated to me that the Council were now convinced, that in permitting the Demonstrator to deliver lectures independently of the Professor, they had committed a great error; but, as they had given the permission, it could not be rescinded; that it was quite evident, from the experience of the two last sessions, that unless I could suggest a plan by which the unhappy spirit of rivalry could be put an end to, there was no hope of their being able to restore harmony; and his Lordship added, that the Council threw themselves on me to relieve them from the difficulty in which they were placed. Forgetting at once all the ill-usage I had received both from Mr. Bennett and from the Council, and fully agreeing in the necessity of a change, I consented to give up one-half of my Professorship to Mr. Bennett, on the express understanding, that in all announcements of the change, it should be clearly and unequivocally stated, that the measure was one which had been adopted by me voluntarily, and not forced on me by the Council. My reputation, which had suffered so much from the investigations instituted, and of the nature of which the public could not be informed, required me to insist on this justice being done me. But although I received a positive promise from the Council that my wishes should be complied with, even this pledge was broken; and in the Annual Report, where the change in Mr. Bennett's position is published, nothing whatever is said as to the measure having been one made on my suggestion,—the public are left to infer that it was forced on me by the Council, from their considering me incompetent to discharge alone the duties of the Professorship.

If the minute of Council of *August 2nd, 1831*, which declares,—“*that they had investigated the charges against Professor Pattison, and had found them to be groundless,*” were not of itself sufficient to establish the fact, that no suspicion remained in the minds of the Council as to my competency and assiduity as a teacher, my appointment, shortly after this last investigation, to the Chair of Surgery, in addition to the one I had previously held, must be admitted, even by my enemies, to be conclusive. “My character and qualifications” (as it is observed in a late memorial addressed to the Council by the most distinguished of my colleagues) “had undergone a series of investigations for two years which were unparalleled in the management of any University or similar Institution in any part of the world;” and after these “searching inquiries,” I am, without any solicitation on my part, requested to undertake the duties of another and a most important Professorship. This fact requires no comment. It leaves the Council not even the shadow of an apology for the

HAD AN END TO SERVE. WHY, THEN, WE BOLDLY ASK, IS HE RETAINED A PROPRIETOR OF THE INSTITUTION? WHY HAVE HIS MIS-STATEMENTS REGARDING EISDELL'S IGNORANCE—AN INSULT WHICH WE ALL CONSIDER PERSONAL TO OURSELVES—NOT BEEN OFFICIALLY CONTRADICTED,” &c. &c. This, it will be admitted, is strong language for students to be permitted to address to the HEADS of a UNIVERSITY—ay, and to the HEADS of a UNIVERSITY where it has been publicly intimated, that should any of its Professors dare to publish anything relating to its affairs, HE SHOULD BE EXPELLED IN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS.

treatment I have experienced during the past session,—treatment which, in its cruelty and injustice to me, and its ruinous operation on the best interests of the University, far exceeds any of the former acts even of the Council.

The Council having been convinced, from the facts which came before them in the investigation of Eisdell's charges, that a young man of the name of Dr. Alexander Thomson, a son of Dr. Antony Todd Thomson, although he had never attended my lectures, had been the active agent in inciting the students to insubordination; and, impressed with the necessity of checking the system of persecution which had been in operation against me, and which it was obvious must operate most injuriously on the interests of the Medical School, requested Mr. Coates, who was at the time performing the duties of the warden's office, to concert measures to prevent him from being admitted within the precincts of the University. The object of this resolution was to prevent Dr. Alexander Thomson from coming in contact with the pupils of the new class, that he might not have it in his power to prejudice their minds, and create in them a feeling hostile to the character of a Professor whom the Council, after the fullest investigation, had considered deserving of all confidence. They likewise sent the following minute to Mr. Hogg, the apothecary at the University Dispensary:—“*That Dr. Alexander Thomson be dismissed from, and prevented visiting, the Dispensary forthwith.*” This wise resolution for the exclusion of young Thomson from the University, the effect of which would in all probability have been most salutary, was formed when Mr. Horner was absent from town. No sooner, however, did that individual return, than he, aware of the order of Council for Thomson's exclusion—aware that he had addressed a protest to the Council, which, to use his own language, “*contained actionable matter, although it contained a most severe attack on Mr. Pattison\**,” on his receiving an insolent letter from him, he addressed to him the following note:—

“My dear Sir,—I have just received your note, and shall be happy to see you, if you will favour me with a call any time to-day between two and four o'clock. You will find no obstacle to your admission to the gate or elsewhere.

Yours very truly,

LEONARD HORNER.”

“*University, Wednesday, 6th October.*”

As might be expected from this note, the order to prevent Dr. Thomson's re-admission was immediately rescinded by Mr. Horner, on his *own* authority; and Mr. Hill, the porter, was desired to offer no obstacle to his admission to the Institution. Mr. Horner's apology for thus violating the express orders of the Council on so momentous a matter as the expulsion of a student, is, that he did not consent to his re-admission until he received from him his word, as a man of honour, that he would not interfere with Professor Pattison. This apology will be found to be a very futile one; for on the *very day* young Thomson was admitted, he came to my class-room, and addressed my pupils in terms the most abusive as to my professional and general character. For this fresh act of aggression, he was again expelled. Monstrous and incredible as it may appear, two days after this, MR. HORNER NOT ONLY AGAIN ADMITTED HIM TO THE UNIVERSITY, BUT HE GAVE HIM A SPECIAL LICENCE TO GO TO MY THEATRE, AND ADDRESS MY PUPILS ON THE SUBJECT OF MY

\* See Medical and Surgical Journal, p. 450.

INCOMPETENCY AS A TEACHER OF ANATOMY AND SURGERY. By this permission, *my* class-room was converted into a court of inquiry as to my competency as an Anatomist and Surgeon, and my pupils, a majority of whom had only studied anatomy for a fortnight, were constituted the judges of their Professor. This most remarkable assembly, authorized by the Warden of the University, took place immediately after Mr. Bennett's lecture on the morning of the 13th October, 1830. Its proceedings commenced immediately after the conclusion of Mr. Bennett's lecture at twelve o'clock, and it continued in session until I entered my theatre to lecture at two o'clock. Indeed, Mr. Eisdell, the *Chairman*, only left *my* chair when I entered the room to occupy it; AND THE VERY SAME PUPILS REMAINED TO HEAR THE LECTURE OF A PROFESSOR WHOSE CONDUCT AND CHARACTER THEY HAD HEARD TRADUCED IN THE MOST UNMEASURED TERMS FOR TWO HOURS. These proceedings were authorized by the Warden of the University of London, and *this Warden was not dismissed*. Will the fact be credited at either Oxford or Cambridge, or indeed at any institution which assumes the title even of a private school in any part of the world?

I immediately made the Council acquainted with young Thomson's proceedings; and a special meeting having been summoned, the order for his expulsion, which had been before enforced by Mr. Coates, but twice rescinded by the Warden, was again re-enforced. The evil had, however, been done; the seeds of dissension were sown; the whole Institution was thrown into a state of convulsion; parties and cabals were formed; tri-coloured papers, inscribed "THOMSON AND LIBERTY," were handed about; and the whole odium of the expulsion was, by his friends, (and I may observe that they were the same persons, as their notes, published by young Thomson, prove, who have been so prominent in the late acts of insubordination,) attributed to me. They were determined to be revenged, and most indefatigable have they been, during the progress of the session, to effect their purpose. Every measure which their malice could invent has been in active operation to alienate from me the respect and affection of my pupils. They were unceasing in their abuse; and although many of them scarcely ever entered my class-room\*, they constituted themselves judges of lectures they did not hear, and decried them. The dissecting-rooms and the cloisters were now converted into arenæ for Eisdell, Bree, and others of the same party, to harangue the pupils as to my unfitness for the chair I occupied, and to exhort them never to rest until they obliged me, who had been the cause of the expulsion of a fellow-student, to leave the University. Is it wonderful, when this state of things was permitted, that, under such influence, many of the junior students should be misled, the more especially when they found that the students who were the most violent in their condemnation of the Professor of Anatomy, so far from receiving punishment, were those who were the most distinguished and cherished by certain of my colleagues? It is a fact which requires no comment, that Mr. Eisdell was invited to every *conversazione* held during the session.

\* The following is an extract from a letter which I lately received from Mr. James Long, a gentleman who, although he only attended three courses of lectures, carried off last session two gold medals, and one silver one, and who will, I think, even by the pupils, be allowed to have been the most distinguished student in the University:—"It is notorious that the mass of those who raised up their voices against you rarely entered your lecture-room, except for the purpose of creating disturbances; and I shall ever regret it, as it deprived me and others, who were anxious to receive instruction, from your valuable lectures, for so long a period."

The unhappy effect of this system upon the conduct of a considerable number of my pupils soon became apparent: they became irregular in their attendance; and I observed that, when they did present themselves, their object seemed to be rather to create disturbance than to derive instruction. They generally placed themselves on a back seat, where, from their position being more removed from my observation, they were better able to disturb and annoy the more attentive pupils, and exhibit to them the feeling of disrespect which they entertained for their Professor. I took occasion, in several instances, to rebuke them with gentleness for their misconduct; but, although this might produce some effect for a day or two, it was but transitory, and matters became worse and worse as the session advanced. Aware, from my experience of the Council, that I should gain nothing by complaining to them, I determined patiently to submit, in the hope that, by a diligent and assiduous discharge of my duties, I should succeed in getting over the session, and that the feeling of hostility created by Thomson's expulsion would have died away before the commencement of another. To prove the zeal with which I devoted myself to the improvement of my class, I may state that Mr. Bennett, from bad health, being unable to lecture for a considerable time, I undertook the performance of his duties, and, although very far from well myself, I was, for a length of time, in the habit of lecturing three times daily. These exertions on my part had not, however, the desired effect; and in the commencement of February, the conduct of certain members of my class became so outrageous, that I was induced to enforce a rigid system of discipline, and one I have no doubt, if I had only been supported by the Council, which would soon have had the effect of putting down insubordination.

It was, I think, on the 5th of February, that I was informed that a meeting was held, after my lecture, by the students, for the purpose of getting up a memorial to the Council, charging me with incompetency, and requiring my dismissal from my Professorships. As the Council have never allowed me a sight of it, I speak as to its contents merely from what I have heard. The principal actors at this meeting were Eisdell and others, who had the year before sent in complaints to the Council, which had been declared groundless, and who had insulted the Council by sending them the Memorial from which I have given an extract (p. 15), assisted by a few young persons who had only been studying anatomy for a few months. One of them was a young man, who, a few days before, had, when I attempted to examine him, begged to be excused, as he *then* said he knew nothing of anatomy; yet who, at this meeting, moved a resolution to the effect, that "Professor Pattison is incompetent to teach anatomy!" At this assembly, a large body of the class being present, they failed, after a most turbulent meeting, to carry their resolutions; and they therefore determined to hold another in the University of London Tavern, to which those only who were unfriendly to me were to be admitted. Before this meeting took place, the ringleaders went amongst the pupils to endeavour to induce them privately to sign the Memorial; but with all their exertions, I was told they could only obtain sixteen signatures, and some of these *were not pupils of my class*.

When these proceedings were in progress, the Warden *wrote, in the Council-room of the University, a letter for these insubordinate pupils to lay before the Council, for the purpose of having an inquiry instituted against me*. If Mr. Horner will deny the fact, I have the most unques-

tionable evidence to prove it. But Mr. Horner will not do so : he knows too well, *although he took the precaution to get it copied by one of the students who was present at the time*, so that his own handwriting might not rise up in judgment against him, that the pupil he intrusted with his confidence did not keep his secret. The fact was, the party opposed to me were too well aware of the influence which the circulation of the fact that the Warden of the University, the depository of the secrets of the Council and their private adviser, was a party in the league against the Professor of Anatomy, to keep the secret. The fact was stated, and the letter which the Warden had written, and advised them to address to the Council, was read at the meeting held at the University Tavern, and the effect was what might have been anticipated. The list of complaints was rapidly increased by the announcement that they should have the Warden's assistance and co-operation, in effecting the object in which they were embarked, and the signatures at that meeting were increased to above thirty\*. Mr. Horner, I am told, states, as an apology, that his object in writing this letter for the students was to prevent them from holding a meeting in a tavern. It did not prevent them from holding the meeting in the tavern ; and can he, for a moment, suppose that men of sense will receive this as an excuse for such an act?—one, the obvious effect of which was to encourage the insubordination of the students. But of what matter is it to me whether malice or want of judgment dictated the conduct of the Warden ? I impute the measures he adopted to private and personal motives : his friends plead he was only injudicious. I was told last summer by the Lord Chancellor, when the investigation of Eisdell's charges was in progress, that I ought to congratulate myself on their having been undertaken, for, observed his Lordship, " When this inquiry has been finished, and your competency and reputation vindicated, should any pupil afterwards presume to complain against you, his complaints will be treated with scorn." But what is the fact, *when the very same pupils*, whose former charges were proved to be

\* There is a story circulated which is untrue. It is said that a Memorial was addressed to the Council, signed by one hundred and eleven pupils, requiring my dismissal. The history of the Memorial is as follows :—Before it was intimated to the pupils that the Warden had joined the league against me, not more than sixteen pupils could be induced to give their signatures. When this fact was published, the list was increased to thirty-six, and when I attempted to enforce the regulations I have adverted to in the text, it being represented by my enemies as an act of tyranny and oppression, and interfering with the rights of the students, a considerable number of young men, who had before been most favourably disposed to me, were induced to sign it. The highest number of names ever obtained for this document, so far as I have been informed, did not exceed fifty-eight. The Memorial signed by one hundred and eleven pupils was not against me, but prayed the Council to re-admit the pupils who had been suspended, and was signed by a considerable number of those who addressed a Memorial to the Council expressive of their approbation of me as a teacher of Anatomy and Surgery.

Much importance has been attached to the number of my pupils who have signed the protest against me ; whereas, the slightest acquaintance with the character of young men would teach that no other effect could be produced by the measures that have been adopted. It would be strange if young men did not derive enjoyment from the consciousness that they had talents for commanding in situations where their contemporaries were wont to obey : the Council, their officer, and my colleagues, have so acted as to leave no doubt on the mind of any pupil that I was the cause of the disgrace of the expelled students. Thus all sorts of these young men have been, as it were, invited by diversity of motives adapted to the tastes of each, to denounce me. Solicited by the Warden's emphatic *one*, by the indecision of the Council, by the consciousness that the more outrageous and violent their conduct was, the more they acquire strength, and especially by the example that was set them by Mr. Peart, in offering personal insult to me—for which he has received no other mark of the dissatisfaction of the Council, than exclusion from a class which was not permitted to meet.

utterly without foundation, go to make fresh complaints to the Warden? Does he discourage them from addressing the Council? No: he requests them to sit down; he "listens with painful earnestness to their complaints, he cultivates them;" and fearful that, should they themselves prepare the Memorial, it might be intemperate, and might not therefore be favourably received by the Council, he, the WARDEN of the University, prepares a letter to be addressed to the Council by the insubordinate students! This fact being established, can any one feel astonishment at the disturbances which have since disgraced the University of London, and to remedy which a Select Committee, who have positively refused to inquire into the merits of the case, have, in violation of every principle of justice, recommended to the Council the dismissal of the Professor of Anatomy and Surgery?

It was after these meetings that I attempted to enforce the system of discipline to which I have adverted. I required

1st. That all the students should come into the body of the theatre.

2dly. That the regularity of their attendance should be ascertained by my calling over daily a list of their names.

3dly. That every student, who wished to obtain a certificate, should submit to the regular weekly examinations.

It will, I think, be admitted, that there was nothing severe or tyrannical in these regulations. To the first, no reasonable student could object, for the back bench, where the insubordinate pupils placed themselves, from its situation, was ill calculated for seeing the objects of demonstration, and would never have been preferred by any person disposed to obtain knowledge from the lectures. To the second, as it was only intended to ensure regularity of attendance, no objection can be urged. And as to the third, it being in strict accordance with the regulations imposed on the pupils by the published rules of the Council, which render it imperative on every student who wishes a certificate to submit to examination, I ought to have been supported in enforcing it by the framers of the law. No doubt I had a particular object in being anxious to insist on a compliance with this rule. Aware that the majority of the young men who were so active in abusing my lectures, rarely attended them, and were the most ignorant in the class, I wished, by examining them in the presence of the others, to prove to their fellow-students how ill-qualified they were to pass judgment on the qualifications of their Professor.

The first day I attempted to carry the foregoing regulations into effect, about half a dozen, in despite of everything I could say, remained in the back seat, and treated the requests and remonstrance I addressed to them with sneers and contempt. I at last told them that I should that day see the Council, and let them decide whether the Professor was or was not to be obeyed in his class-room. I accordingly saw the Council, and reported to them the steps I had adopted. They approved of the regulations, and required me to insist on the pupils complying with them. I asked what measures I should pursue in the event of my request not being complied with?—and I was directed to call in the beadles of the Institution, who are constables, and, in the words of Mr. Bingham Baring, who was present, to drag out those who refused to come into the body of the theatre. The following day, when I entered my theatre, I found twenty-three of the students placed on the prohibited bench. I begged them to come down into the seat below, but as no attention was paid to my request, I then told them "that, by the instructions of the Council, I was directed, if ne-



cessary, to compel them to do so ; that I now addressed them, not only as their Professor, but as the organ of the Council, and that, armed with their authority, I required them to obey me." What I said had, however, only the effect of inducing a few to come down, the large majority kept their places, and unwilling to attempt to compel them by a constabulary force, which must have led to a disgraceful riot, I contented myself by writing down their names, telling them, at the same time, that I would report them that day to the Council. I did so, and an order for their exclusion from my class was issued, and a Special Council was summoned for the following Saturday, that measures might be decided on to punish them for their contumacy. I was requested to be in attendance. After the Council had been in deliberation for two hours, I was admitted, and was informed by the Chairman, that they had decided THAT THE STUDENTS WHO HAD BEEN SUSPENDED SHOULD BE AGAIN ADMITTED TO MY LECTURES, ON THE CONDITION OF THEIR MAKING AN APOLOGY TO MR. HORNER, whom they had never insulted, and who I had a few days before impeached to the Council as an ally of the insubordinate students ! Certainly no decision could have been more cunningly devised for setting my authority at naught, and for encouraging the insubordination and disrespect of my students.

The effect of the decision of the Council was what might have been expected. On entering my class-room on the Monday following, one of the very same students, who had been readmitted on making an apology to Mr. Horner, was again seated on the back seat. After I had asked him politely, two or three times, to come down, he got up, and demanded, in the most insolent manner possible, if " I asked him to do so as a favour ? " I then said, " If you put it on that, I require you, as your Professor, immediately to come down." " Well," says he, " I won't ; " and Mr. Bree, who had likewise been suspended, and who, in the first instance, was in the body of the theatre, immediately started from his place, and ran up and seated himself in an attitude of defiance, beside Mr. Merriman. This act of insubordination received the plaudits of the insubordinate pupils. The same day, after I had finished the lecture and retired to my private room, I was followed by a Mr. Peart, who had been one of the ring-leaders in exciting the pupils to acts of insubordination, and had officiated as chairman at one of their meetings, a student who had rarely entered my class-room, and to whom I had refused, on account of the irregularity of his attendance, to grant a certificate. On his entrance he demanded his certificate. I told him mildly, that from the reasons I had already stated to him, I could not grant it. A student who was with him, said insolently, " Mr. Peart has attended you as regularly as anybody else." I did not reply to this, and Mr. Peart then came up to me, and said, " You are no gentleman." Having offered me this insult, he returned to the class-room, where a considerable number of the pupils still remained, and on being asked what he had done, he told them that he " had told Pattison he was no gentleman, but that he did not resent it." ! Immediately afterwards he sent his attorney to serve a writ on me to force me to grant him a certificate\*. I reported the facts the same day to the Council, and it was determined that Merriman, Bree and Peart should be expelled : one of the members, however, Mr. Warburton, succeeded in

\* This same student was refused his certificate the previous Session by Dr. Davis, on account of the irregularity of his attendance. It was never granted to him, and he was obliged to enter for another course of lectures on midwifery.

getting the expulsion postponed until the Saturday following, on the plea of its not being in accordance with the system adopted in universities, to expel a student until he had notice given of the intention to do so. The pupils were therefore suspended, as it was understood, merely as preparatory to their expulsion. On the Saturday I was summoned to attend the meeting of the Council; and Messrs. Merriman, Bree, and Peart, being called in separately, the facts I had stated were, even by their own admission, fully substantiated.

Mr. Warburton, it is true, pressed very much on the attention of the Council, in palliation of Mr. Peart's offence, the fact, that he had told the Professor he was no gentleman *in his private room* (which, by the by, communicates with the class-room), and not in the class-room. This refinement does, to my plain understanding, appear to be a distinction without a difference. Instead of their being expelled, Mr. Merriman, on receiving a gentle reprimand, was re-admitted by the Council to my lectures, and Messrs. Bree and Peart were merely prevented from attending my lectures for the remainder of the session. They were permitted to attend all the other lectures, to associate with my pupils, and to continue to cabal against me. The punishment, it will be allowed, was a moderate one for the offence, but the Council seemed to consider it too severe, and about a week afterwards, having sent for Messrs. Bree and Peart, and having induced them to offer a sort of apology *to the Council*, an order was sent to my beadle for their re-admission to my lectures. *The intimation which conveyed the information to me, contained a direction to grant Mr. Peart his certificate, to which his attendance did not entitle him, and to force me to give him which he had told me I was no gentleman, and had a writ served on me in the University, and which writ has never been withdrawn.*

This last act of the Council, as it was easy to foresee, gave a complete *coup de grace* to any little authority which might have remained to me as a Professor, and the scenes which followed in my class-room were so outrageous and disgraceful as to defy description. A COMMITTEE OF THE INSUBORDINATE PUPILS, WHO HAD, PREVIOUSLY TO THIS LAST ACT OF THE COUNCIL, MET IRREGULARLY, NOW HELD THEIR SITTINGS DAILY IN THE UNIVERSITY, AND DECIDED EVERY DAY WHETHER THE PROFESSOR OF ANATOMY AND SURGERY SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO LECTURE.

On the next lecture-day, after the order had been issued for the re-admission of Messrs. Bree and Peart, when I entered my class-room I found the pupils divided into two parties. The larger body, consisting of the well disposed, were ranged below, and the insubordinates, who had received every encouragement from the acts of the Council, had taken possession of the forbidden bench, and were in part seated on it, and in part ranged on the space behind it. The last party were accompanied by a considerable number of the young gentlemen of the general school, who came, as they themselves expressed it, to "*see the fun*"—THE FUN OF SEEING A PROFESSOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON INSULTED! I was greeted with the most discordant yells. My friends below were loud in their expression of approbation, and my enemies above were equally vociferous in their howlings and cries of "*Off, off, you won't be permitted to lecture.*" After attempting in vain, for about ten minutes, to proceed with the lecture, I paused until a partial silence was restored, but, on again making the attempt, the hisses and yells commenced, and one of the pupils

in the back bench got up and bawled out, "*If you wish to lecture, you must make an apology to the students;*" as I was not disposed to do so, the clamour continued, and I was at last obliged to retire without being able to lecture. Daily during the week the same scene was enacted, and daily I was obliged, after a vain attempt to be heard, to retire. THE FACTS WERE DAILY REPORTED TO THE COUNCIL. After the lectures had been interrupted in this way for six or eight days, a commission was appointed by the Council, consisting of Lord King, Mr. Macaulay, and Mr. Sturch, to visit my theatre, in the hope that they might succeed in enforcing discipline where the Professor had failed. The editor of the "*Medical Gazette*," who happened to be present on the occasion of these gentlemen visiting my theatre, has published so admirable and graphic an account of what occurred, that I make no apology for giving his statement of the transaction in preference to my own.

#### "LONDON UNIVERSITY.

"Scenes of a very novel and curious description have lately taken place at this Institution. There had for some time been evidence of a gathering storm—squalls were alternated with the stillness of expectation, till it became apparent that the atmosphere of the anatomical class-room was charged with elements that could not be permanently tranquillized without an explosion. This took place on Wednesday, the 16th instant. On Mr. Pattison making his appearance, he was received by those present with sounds of the most opposite description. His friends were ranged below, his foes above, and a regular contest for the mastery ensued. The former applauded, the latter hissed; and for a moment the cheering seemed to preponderate, till the opponents of the Professor, abandoning their inarticulate mode of denunciation, began to utter cries of '*Off, off!*—*no lecture,*' &c.; when their superiority over his supporters soon became manifest, both as to numbers and zeal. A more extraordinary performance than that which followed was probably never before witnessed within the walls of any establishment devoted to science. The Professor bowed, and was about to commence his lecture, but '*Off, off,*' resounded from all sides, and his voice was drowned in the din. The '*subject*' for demonstration was then brought in, but the dead and the living were treated with equal disrespect, and it seemed as if nothing could have increased the uproar, till at length a side-door opened, and Mr. Horner, the warden, entered. His office having for its especial object the maintenance of order, he proceeded, in the discharge of his duty, to address the students. It was now confusion worse confounded; the noise and clamour, and determined purpose of overwhelming his voice, became deafening. He attempted by every means to gain a hearing, but the attempt was in vain; the opposition to him appeared, if possible, more violent than that directed against Mr. Pattison. The drama was not yet ended, for behold the door opened once again, when three members of the Council, headed by Lord King, presented themselves. His Lordship, with looks and gestures as indicative of humble entreaty as those practised by John Kemble during the O. P. rows at Covent-Garden, now came forward, and, laying his hand upon his heart, in dumb show supplicated a hearing. For some time it was doubtful whether he would succeed any better than the Warden, but at length having obtained a moment's pause, his Lordship put it to the students, as men of honour and feeling, to suffer the lecturer to proceed; assuring them that any representation they might send to the Council would be immediately

attended to. Here his assertion was met by a declaration from one of the pupils, who instantly rose and stated that the class had already sent in a remonstrance which had not met with attention. Lord K. asseverated that this should not occur again; but the thread of his discourse, once broken, was not so easily resumed. Clamour again prevailed, and his Lordship, with the whole of his party, were ultimately obliged to retire, leaving the pupils triumphant, and affording an excellent illustration of collegiate discipline. To make the matter complete, the lectures were suspended; and we understand that a *verbatim* copy of the former paper was sent in to the Council by the pupils, who have thus taken Lord King at his word.

“ On Monday last the theatre was opened again, when it was stated, by one of the pupils, that the ‘Committee’ had agreed that there should be no further expression of disapprobation manifested towards Mr. Pattison at present,—an announcement obviously comprehending an acknowledgment that the previous disturbance and interruption of the lectures had been the result of an organized plan. The Professor soon after entered, and in a subdued tone, and with the appearance of a man oppressed by deep emotion, said, that after the interruptions which the course had met with, it became impossible for him to resume the thread of his discourse at the point at which it had been broken; he should, therefore, direct their attention to a new subject. He then proceeded to demonstrate the surgical anatomy of the arteries of the lower extremity, and, we must say, went through his task without betraying any of that confusion, carelessness, or inaccuracy, of which he has been accused.”

*Med. Gazette*, March 26, 1831, p. 822, et seq.

Now, I will put it to any person at all conversant with the discipline of an academical institution, if any speech could have been more unfortunate than the one Lord King addressed to the pupils on this occasion. He appeared there as the representative of the Council, and his speech ought therefore to have been one of *authority*, not one of *solicitation*. What he said amounted merely to this: Send in your complaints, and they will receive all attention. God knows it was unnecessary to tell the students of the University of London, that any complaint urged against the Professor of Anatomy would be received with respect and attention. The acts of the Council, ever since my connexion with the Institution, were of themselves a sufficient evidence of the fact; and surely it was unnecessary for the noble Lord to offer any additional assurance to a set of riotous young men, who, at the moment he addressed them, were offering insult to him, to the Council, and to their Professor.

The commission of the Council, although armed with very different authority, having failed as completely as the Professor in getting a permission for the lectures to go on, and it being the WILL of the “STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE STUDENTS” that the riots should continue, they were accordingly continued, and the lectures of anatomy and surgery put a stop to for another week. A new commission of visitation, composed of his Grace the Duke of Somerset and Mr. Hallam, was then appointed to visit my class-room. I had no idea, when I heard that I was to be honoured by a visit from these gentlemen, that I should be permitted to proceed with my lecture; and it is very well ascertained, that unless an order had been issued by the “STANDING COMMITTEE” just before the lecture began, which directed the insubordinates to allow the Professor of Anatomy to lecture,

*without making an apology*, they would have failed as completely as Lord King's commission to enforce order in the Theatre of Anatomy. I have been told that the "STANDING COMMITTEE" were induced to suspend their resolution that the Professor of Anatomy should not be permitted to lecture, from private information which they received, that if they did not do so, a second commission reporting their disorderly conduct to the Council, the object they had in view (the dismissal of Professor Pattison) might be prejudiced. This much is certain, that it was a mere suspension of their order for riot, and that it was frequently afterwards rescinded during the remainder of the session, and the lectures put a stop to by proceedings which would have disgraced a bear-garden. I never knew, in fact, when I went to the University, whether I should or should not be permitted to lecture, until I entered my class-room, and saw the disposition of the pupils.

*The orderly and diligent students of the Institution were deprived of lectures they were most anxious to listen to for one month and three days by order of the "STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE STUDENTS!"* My reader will naturally inquire here, if the Council were informed of the existence of this "STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE STUDENTS." I ANSWER, INCREDIBLE AS IT MAY APPEAR, THEY WERE NOT ONLY INFORMED OF THE FACT BY ME, BUT THEY ACTUALLY COMMUNICATED OFFICIALLY WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THAT BODY.

There is something so exceedingly ridiculous and farcical in the facts which I have detailed, that I should be afraid to state them, on the ground that they would not obtain credit, were they not of such public notoriety as to place their truth beyond suspicion. Indeed the statement of what took place is necessarily an abridged one: were I to record all the acts of the Council of the University, the evident operation of which was to remove every vestige of discipline, and to depreciate the authority and reputation of the Professor of Anatomy, I should fill a volume. As I am unwilling to fatigue my reader, I shall merely relate the method which they again adopted to decide the question of the competency of the Professor of Anatomy, which they had before so frequently investigated and vindicated.

Charges having been made to the Council, that I had delivered, in my lectures, certain demonstrations which were incorrect, I was informed that it was their intention to appoint a committee to investigate them. Whether the charges were communicated in authenticated or anonymous letters, I have never been able to ascertain; for the Council, in all that has related to me, have always acted on the principle of the "STAR CHAMBER," and have concealed from the accused both the precise nature of the charges advanced against him, and the source whence they have been derived. The rumour, however, that such was their intention, having reached me, I addressed a protest to the Council against my competency being again investigated on the charges of students. Anxious, however, to prove to the Council that I had no objection to the question being investigated, provided the investigation was conducted in such a way as would accomplish the object, and at the same time comport with the rank I held in my profession, I addressed to them a few days afterwards the following letter.

" My Lords and Gentlemen, " *University of London, March 22nd, 1831.*

" Although I addressed to you a letter last Saturday, which contained a protest against my competency, as your Professor of Anatomy and Surgery,

being investigated on the charges and evidence of certain of my pupils, I wish it to be clearly and unequivocally understood, that so far from being averse to the question of my competency being investigated, I most anxiously court inquiry. At the same time, it must be an inquiry so conducted, that it may not be unbecoming in a gentleman who for twenty years has been distinguished as a Professor of these branches of medical science to submit to.

“ After maturely deliberating on the subject, it has occurred to me, that there is only one way of settling the question of my competency, which will be satisfactory to you and to the public, and, at the same time, not derogatory to my character.

“ It is, that a Reporter be employed to attend my lectures for the remainder of the session, so that a faithful report of what *I really do teach may be obtained*. This being procured, it will then be an easy matter for you and the public to judge whether I do or do not convey valuable instruction to my pupils. I am not vain enough to believe that I am superior to all other men as a teacher of Anatomy; but that I am a competent teacher I have no doubt, and most fearlessly, therefore, do I challenge the inquiry. Indeed, so desirous am I that the question should be fairly and for ever set at rest, and that I should, in all time coming, be freed from those persecutions which have been in operation against me ever since my connexion with your Institution, and which would long ere this have broken the heart of most men, that I shall cheerfully consent to pay myself one-half of the expense which may be incurred in employing a Reporter, and getting him to write out fair copies of my lectures.

“ The only conditions I make, are: 1st. That the fair copy of each lecture be immediately sent to me after it is finished, in order that I may have an opportunity of correcting any errors *which the Reporter* may have committed in his report of the lecture. After each lecture is so corrected, it will immediately be sent to you.

“ 2ndly. That I shall be allowed, should I consider it necessary, to publish the lectures so reported.

“ It will be necessary that the gentleman who is employed as the Reporter should have been in the habit of reporting medical lectures. If the gentleman who reports Mr. Lawrence's lectures for the ‘*Medical Gazette*’ could be obtained, I should prefer him. I have no idea who he is, but, from the manner in which he has reported the lectures referred to, he is evidently well qualified for the undertaking.

“ Whatever may be your decision, I beg that this letter may be placed on your minutes.

“ I have the honour to be, my Lords and Gentlemen,  
“ GRANVILLE S. PATTISON.”

It will, I think, be allowed that a more manly mode of meeting the charges advanced against me as a lecturer, could not have been proposed; and if the Council had really been desirous that the question of my fitness to continue their Professor of Anatomy and Surgery should have been *fairly* settled, my offer would have been accepted. So anxious did I feel that my proposal should be adopted, that I called on Dr. Birkbeck and Mr. Mill, who I knew had no doubts of my competency, and begged them not to oppose the appointment of a Reporter, but, on the contrary, to attend the meeting of Council when the subject was to be discussed, and

employ their influence to get the proposition carried. These gentlemen did so, but they failed in their object. It may be asked what objection was urged by the Council against the prayer of my letter. *It was, that they had no doubt as to my abilities, and as to my fitness for the discharge of the duties of my Professorship.* I was told that, at this meeting, the Attorney-General expressed himself most strongly against the appointment of a Reporter. He said he should never cease to blame himself for being a party in listening to the charges of Eisdell, and going into an investigation upon them as to the competency of a Professor whose history furnished such unquestionable and incontrovertible evidence of his talents and capacity as a teacher. *After this decision, will it be believed, that a Committee, composed of Lord King, Mr. William Marshall, and Mr. Merrivale, were in session for several weeks in the very same room where the Council had a few days before decided not to appoint a Reporter, because my talents and capacity for the discharge of the duties of my office were not to be questioned, examining into the question of my competency on the charges of my pupils?*

The injustice of the acts of this Committee is only exceeded by their absurdity. Without taking the pains to ascertain whether I had really committed the errors with which I was charged, they proceeded to investigate whether the charges made did or did not contain anatomical blunders.

Lord King, Mr. William Marshall, and Mr. Merrivale, not one of whom knew a nerve from an artery, constituted themselves the judges of my anatomical pretensions! The proceedings of this Committee became too ridiculous for even the students to stand it. The anatomical engravings belonging to the medical library were carried into the Council Room; and with these before them, and with the assistance of anatomical dictionaries to explain technical terms, these gentlemen gravely deliberated on the amount and correctness of the anatomical knowledge possessed by the Professor of Anatomy!

I have never been able to learn precisely what was the result of the deliberations of this committee. I believe they could not make out a single charge, and getting tired, in about three weeks, of the study of anatomy, they terminated their labours.

The session of lectures had now concluded; but the Council, who had by their proceedings of last summer kept me in a state of anxiety and vexation during the whole vacation, seemed determined, although my sufferings in the class-room had concluded, that their persecutions should continue. I accordingly, early in May, received a notice from the Warden, that Mr. Thomas Wilson had given notice that, on a day specified, he would move that "*It be recommended to Professor Pattison to retire from his Professorships of Anatomy and Surgery.*" On receiving this communication I addressed the following letter to the Council.

*“ University of London, Monday, May 9th.*

“ My Lords and Gentlemen,—I received last Saturday, from Mr. Horner, an intimation that a member of the Council had given notice that he would move, at their next session, ‘That it be recommended to Professor Pattison to retire from the chairs of Anatomy and Surgery at the close of the present session.’

“ I am convinced the Council will see that I cannot consent to ruin my character, and pass from independence to indigence, at any request which

they can make. Although I feel strongly assured that the Council will have too much good feeling to entertain the motion at all, still the circumstances of the case are too vitally important to me to prevent me from calling their attention to the following facts:—

“ 1st. By the adoption of the course proposed I should resign myself to beggary and ruin.

“ 2dly. The result of the investigation as to my competency, which the Council were induced, on anonymous representations, to institute, and which Mr. Hume at their request undertook, was, that the complaints were utterly without foundation.

“ 3dly. The result of another investigation into my conduct, and which was undertaken by the Lord Chancellor, Mr. Mill, Sir Thomas Denman, and Mr. Warburton, vindicated my character from all the charges of incompetency and inattention.

“ 4thly. When a late Professor asserted that I had read the answer of one of my medalists at a public ceremonial for the delivery of honours, which was filled with anatomical errors, I set on foot an inquiry, to prove whether the fact was so. Dr. Turner took the book containing the answer of my pupil to that Professor, with a request that he would mark the passages containing the alleged errors: I then proved, from the highest anatomical authorities, and to your satisfaction, that in all the passages so marked, the answers of my pupil had been strictly correct.

“ 5thly. The result of the inquiry which took place last summer, when certain students were permitted to adopt the unusual course of making charges against the competency of their Professor, was an unanimous resolution of the Council, passed, after some months' patient investigation, that the charges were without foundation, and that their confidence in my competency and zeal remained unshaken. You then intimated to me your intention to publish a complete vindication of my character, which had been so much injured from the publicity which these inquiries had obtained.

“ 6thly. This investigation so completely removed from your minds even the suspicion of incompetency, that at a session of Council held about a month afterwards, you offered, unsolicited, for my acceptance the chair of Surgery, in addition to the ~~one~~ I had before held.

“ 7thly. I beg you to call to mind the report furnished by two of the most distinguished members of the Council, who lately did me the honour to come and hear me lecture\*.

“ 8thly. By a reference to your minutes you will find, that so far from shrinking from investigation as to my competency, I requested you, in language the most pressing, to appoint a reporter to report my lectures on anatomy and surgery, in order that, by their publication, you and the public might be enabled to estimate fairly their value.

“ I have been told by a member of the Council, that although nothing has been established against my competency, that still my reputation has

\* I have before, in the narrative, stated that HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF SOMERSET and Mr. HALLAM attended one of my lectures during the disturbances. The latter gentleman immediately afterwards addressed to me a very flattering letter, expressive of his opinion of my merits as a teacher, in which he said, “ that in his opinion it was impossible for any person to convey instruction in a more able, perspicuous, and animated manner.” And the former, although he did not address me himself, took occasion to pass the highest possible encomiums on my lectures at the first meeting of Council which he attended after he heard me. Under the singular circumstances in which I am placed, I may be excused for stating, that his GRACE declared to the Council, as reported to me by two of its members who were present, that I was the best Lecturer he had ever heard.



suffered so much by the investigations which have taken place, that if I remain in the Institution, the success of the Medical School is greatly perilled. I admit, that it will require many years for the school to recover from the injury it has sustained. *But surely the fault does not rest with me. I did not, as you are aware, originate those proceedings which have led to a result so unfortunate, nor did I furnish by my conduct any just cause to others to do so.* I know that the great majority of my colleagues, including the most distinguished among your Professors, consider my zeal, capacity, and acquirements, not surpassed by those of any teacher in the Institution; and I cannot help saying, that the situation in which these unhappy proceedings have placed me, has been one which has required more than ordinary firmness, consciousness of rectitude, and self-approbation, to sustain me.

“ I have the honour to be,

“ My Lords and Gentlemen,

“ Your obedient servant,

“ GRANVILLE S. PATTISON.”

“ *To the Council of the University of London.*”

Mr. Wilson did not attend the Council on the day on which he had given notice for his motion, and the motion ought to have fallen to the ground: on the next day of their meeting, however, that gentleman brought it forward, but after some discussion the subject was dropped, and some other business was entered on. To the astonishment of some of the members of Council, who attended this meeting of Council, but who retired after they conceived my business had been disposed of, they learnt that, towards the close of the meeting, it was resolved, that a Session of Council should be summoned for the purpose of considering the question of my removal. This information was communicated to me in the following letter.

“ *University of London, May 17, 1831.*

“ SIR,—I subjoin an extract from the Minutes of a Session of Council held yesterday.

“ The subject of the Professorships of Anatomy and Surgery was taken into consideration, as specially noticed in the summons for this meeting.

“ A letter was read from Professor Pattison, dated the 7th instant, written in consequence of his having received notice that a motion was to be made, that he be recommended to retire from the Professorships of Anatomy and Surgery.

“ Resolved,—That a Session of Council be held on Tuesday, the 31st instant at three o'clock, with a special notice, for the purpose of the Council proceeding to the consideration of the removal of Mr. Pattison from the Professorships of Anatomy and Surgery, according to the forms laid down in the Resolutions of Council of 13th and 20th June, 1829.

“ I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

“ LEONARD HORNER,

“ *Professor Pattison.*”

“ *Warden.*”

On receiving this intimation, conceiving that, on every principle of justice, I was entitled to demand a copy of the charges on which I was to be tried, in order that I might have an opportunity to vindicate my character, I addressed the following note to the Warden:

“ *London, May 18, 1831.*

“ SIR,—I request to be furnished, with as little delay as possible, with a

copy of the charges on which the Council propose to found the consideration of my removal from the Professorships of Anatomy and Surgery, which I now, by their appointment, occupy in the University of London.

" I request likewise to be furnished with a copy of all the minutes which have been entered by the Council in relation to me during the present session, which I have been promised, but have not yet received.

" I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
 " *L. Horner, Esq.*" (Signed) " GRANVILLE S. PATTISON."

This letter was laid before the Council, and their officer was directed to inform me that my request could not be complied with. When the fact became known to my colleagues of the General School, that it was the intention of the Council to bring forward a motion for my removal from my Professorships, they immediately held a meeting, and addressed the following admirable remonstrance against the proposed proceeding, to the Council; a copy of which was transmitted to every member of the body.

*" To the Council of the University of London.*

" We, the undersigned, Professors of the General School, have learned with regret, that Professor Pattison has received an official communication from the Warden, stating that the Council have resolved to take into consideration, on the 31st instant, the removal of that gentleman from his Professorship.

" We have not been able to ascertain that any charge of incompetency has been established against Mr. Pattison, or that he has otherwise forfeited his claims to the confidence of the Council. Expediency alone, if we are rightly informed, is the ground of the contemplated measure. It is said that Mr. Pattison has by some means become unpopular among a number of students attending his class; that they have declared him incompetent as an instructor; and that the prevalence of this opinion among them being likely to injure the school, it is expedient that Mr. Pattison be removed from the University. When we declare that we regard the honour, the respectability, and the rank in society of each of us to be involved in the decision of the Council upon this point, we trust that we shall not be considered obtrusive in expressing to the Council our opinion upon it. We therefore earnestly request their attention to the following observations:—

" 1. The proceedings of the students for the last two sessions have produced a succession of investigations respecting Mr. Pattison's character and qualifications of a nature which we believe to be unparalleled in the management of any university or similar institution in any part of the world. The result of these searching inquiries has been, as we are informed, a succession of distinct declarations on the part of the Council, confirming the competency of Mr. Pattison as a public teacher. It is enough here merely to mention these circumstances, since no person can be so well aware of their details as the Council themselves.

" 2. The disturbances which have unhappily arisen in the Medical School cannot be attributed to any defect or misconduct of Mr. Pattison. He is at least as competent now as he was three years ago, when the peace and order of the establishment were undisturbed. We can have no hesitation in declaring our conviction, that the cause of the rise and rapid increase of insubordination and riot among a certain portion of the medical students

is to be found chiefly in the want of an efficient system of academical discipline in the University.

“ 3. We do not of course pretend to any medical knowledge. But we have, nevertheless, had means and opportunities of forming an opinion of Mr. Pattison’s abilities as a teacher. Several of us attended some of the lectures in the earlier part of his course, when anatomical knowledge, on the part of the hearers, was scarcely requisite to qualify them to form an estimate of Mr. Pattison’s abilities as a teacher. We are unanimously of opinion, that there is not one of his colleagues who possesses powers of explanation and the other qualifications necessary to constitute an efficient teacher in a superior degree to Mr. Pattison. Indeed, in these respects, we have never heard any lecturer whom we would place above him.

“ 4. The appointment of a professor by the competent authorities in an institution for public instruction is always deemed to be a sufficient guarantee for his ability to discharge the duties of his office. In no public institution have more pains been bestowed, or more honest exertions made, to ascertain the qualifications of candidates previous to their election, nor is there any in which there has been more perfect impartiality evinced, than in the University of London. Mr. Pattison himself, before his election, was the subject of more scrupulous examination than perhaps any other Professor. The result was his appointment, we believe, by an unanimous vote of the Council. We submit respectfully, that such an adjudication cannot consistently be allowed to be called in question by any number of medical students. Students are learners, not judges. There is no university in the world where it would be for a moment tolerated, that the students should have any control, direct or indirect, over the appointment or removal of a professor. Nor would they be anywhere allowed, publicly in his class-room, to question his qualifications, to dispute his right to teach, or otherwise to disturb the order of the establishment.

“ 5. The measure now under the consideration of the Council is not one which regards Mr. Pattison alone. It involves a question, on the proper adjustment of which depends the very existence of the University. A decision of the Council removing Mr. Pattison will be a declaration that the office of Professor is one held from year to year upon the suffrage of the fluctuating body of students. No man possessing attainments to command the respect of society would seek an office held under such conditions. None who already hold them would continue to do so a moment longer than they could see the means of retiring without disastrous pecuniary loss. We intreat the Council to believe that we are far from wishing to express anything which could by any possibility be interpreted as disrespectful. Extreme cases will often prompt the use of strong terms; and we do not hesitate to say, that such a measure as the removal of Mr. Pattison under the present circumstances would render the situation of a Professor in the University not to be envied by any individual who knows the value of self-respect.

“ 6. We are aware that the Council conceive themselves reduced to a dilemma. That the Medical School may suffer from an imputation, however unfounded, on the competency of one of its Professors, we do not deny. If Mr. Pattison were induced voluntarily to resign, having previously received proper compensation for his loss, and a full and public explanatory statement being made by the Council, vindicating his character, moral and professional, from the stigma which these un-

happy circumstances, through no fault of his, would inevitably cast upon it, we would less object to his retirement, though we should still deeply regret the causes which produced the loss of so valuable a colleague. But if such an arrangement should be found impracticable, we beseech the Council to bear in mind, what we are sure no individual among them will forget—that injustice can never be defended by expediency; that whatever be the immediate effects of the proposed measure, it must, in the long run, be followed by the evil which never fails to attend a departure from strict equity; that even though the measure could only be designated hard, but not unjust, public opinion will not be conciliated by the exposure which must necessarily ensue of the details of these proceedings. Finally, we respectfully submit that the University cannot be served by making the Professors feel that their connexion with it is precarious and transitory, dependent altogether upon the caprice of a group of boys, whose age alone must render manifest their want of experience, judgment, and discretion.

“ We do not mention the temptation which would be held out to a Professor to conciliate, by improper means, the favour of his class; and for the sake of retaining his situation, to become the slave of those of whom he should be the master. We do not mention this, because we think it unlikely that any one capable of pursuing such conduct could ever obtain an appointment to a professorship.

“ In conclusion, we trust that our interest in this question has not betrayed us into the use of language which may appear offensive or disrespectful; and we again repeat our conviction, that the honour, as well as the real interest of the Institution, is involved in the decision of the Council.

	“ A. DE MORGAN.	“ DION. LARDNER.
(Signed)	“ T. HEWETT KEY.	“ J. R. MACCULLOCH.
	“ G. LONG.	“ F. ROSEN.”

Dr. Conolly and Dr. Lardner, at the same time, addressed the following letters to the Council. I may observe, that the late distinguished Professor of Medicine, whose services the Institution has lost principally from the disgust he felt at the proceedings of the Council, attended my lectures of Anatomy and Surgery some years ago for six months; and Dr. Lardner, whose name holds the first rank amongst the most eminent literary and scientific characters of this country, attended my class for some time in the commencement of the session. The opinions of such men as to my qualifications as a teacher, ought certainly to have had as much weight with the Council as the complaints of half-educated students.

“ *Stratford, May 30th, 1831.*

“ My dear Sir,—I fear your letter has reached me too late for my reply to be of any service; and if I thought any letter from me could have been useful, I should regret it much more than I can express.

“ I am grieved, but not surprised, to learn that your enemies have at length almost gained their object of driving you from your Professorship. The unremitting efforts which have been made to make you unpopular with your class would have overwhelmed any man. No words can convey the indignation and contempt with which I have witnessed the proceedings of those who have laboured to effect the ruin of your reputation and your prospects.

“ You came to the University long known and distinguished as an

anatomical teacher. Thirteen years ago I had myself an opportunity of witnessing the devotion of a numerous class to you in Scotland, and the gratifying manner in which it was expressed to you. Invited to America, you formed or raised a large school of anatomy, which fell into comparative insignificance on your departure. In the London University you have been open to public notice and criticism. As a stranger in England your lectures have, I know, frequently been attended by practitioners from different parts of the country. Many of these have expressed to me the satisfaction with which they have heard you; and concurred with me and all your former pupils in thinking that, in clear and animated description of the most important parts of anatomy, and in the power of associating anatomical and practical knowledge, you were eminently distinguished.

“ But, my dear Sir, it is in vain to represent all this. Intrigues appear to have been long since commenced against you from selfish motives, and they have been continued from mere malignity and party spirit. The excitable feelings of inexperienced young men have been artfully wrought upon; your pupils, chiefly the least distinguished amongst them, have been engaged in scenes of disturbance; odium has been thrown upon you and your lectures, and no rest or interval of peace has been permitted to you. All this, which the honour of the University required should be suppressed, has been permitted; and at last it has been made to appear *expedient*, not that the disturbers of a place of learning should be expelled, but that the object of such long-continued persecution should be deprived of his chair. I wish I could say that I believed the Council of the London University would scruple to do this, ignorant as they cannot but be of the real state of the University; distrusting, as they have been taught to do, all the Professors, except a few whose feelings have always been unfavourable to you, and urged on by those who consider immediate pecuniary advantage of more consequence than justice.

“ But the conviction on my mind will always be, that you have been the victim of a most wicked conspiracy, and that if you had been allowed to pursue your duties unmolested, you would have been one of the most popular and one of the most useful teachers of anatomy in Europe.

“ Believe me to remain, my dear Sir,

“ always yours most faithfully and sincerely,

(Signed)

“ JOHN CONOLLY.

“ *To Professor Pattison, &c. &c.*”

“ 122, Regent Street, May 23rd, 1831.

“ My Lords and Gentlemen,—Several of my colleagues having thought it advisable to lay before you their testimony respecting the question of Mr. Pattison’s removal, I take the liberty of addressing you with the same view. I beg to be understood, however, as advancing no claim to any extraordinary skill or authority, but wish merely to be heard as an individual of common capacity on matters requiring no particular ability to form a judgment.

“ I attended several lectures in the earlier part of Mr. Pattison’s course, at a period when previous anatomical knowledge could not be considered necessary to form an opinion of his skill as a teacher. His style of lecturing appeared to me to be unusually clear and impressive: he possessed uncommon fluency and propriety of language, and his illustrations were copious and prompt. The perspicuous manner in which he unfolded

the details of a very complicated subject was to me unequivocal evidence that he thoroughly understood what he taught. The effect produced by his lectures on me has been such, that though I never before studied the subject, and had not previously the least idea of the matters which he explained, and although it is now three years since I heard those lectures, and have not since that time read or heard any thing further on the same subject, I still retain a vivid impression of the details which he explained.

“ If I were to speak of Mr. Pattison comparatively with others, I do not know that I could point out any lecturer whom I consider superior to him in these general qualities of an instructor, which an individual, ignorant of the science which he teaches, is enabled to appreciate.

“ Entertaining the opinion which I do of Mr. Pattison’s qualifications, I would deplore his removal from the University, as an event which would be more injurious to it than the loss of almost any other Professor: certainly more so than the loss of any other of his medical colleagues. It is greatly to be lamented that some of his medical colleagues did not devote their time and attention to the improvement of those qualities in which Mr. Pattison is so conspicuously their superior, instead of engaging in the ungracious and unworthy task of accomplishing the ruin of their most respectable and gifted colleague, by giving countenance and encouragement, as I understand they did, to those riots among the students which have disgraced the Institution.

“ I have never, my Lords and Gentlemen, taken any part, directly or indirectly, in these dissensions; I have been merely a looker on; and I have not therefore had my mind biassed, or my judgment perverted, by the influence of any party spirit. I have never cultivated a greater intimacy with Mr. Pattison than with the other professors with whom I am acquainted, and much less intimacy than with most of them. In expressing therefore these opinions to the Council, I am guided by no other motive than a desire for the well-being and prosperity of the Institution.

“ I have the honour to be,

“ My Lords and Gentlemen,

“ Your most obedient, humble servant,

“ DION. LARDNER.

“ *To the Council of the University of London.*”

A full meeting of the members of the Council was held on the 31st of May, for the purpose of considering the question of my removal; but as it was clear, from the feeling expressed by a majority, that if the question was pressed, I should be acquitted, an adjournment of my trial was moved for one month! This most *unique* mode of judicial proceeding was only agreed to, I know, by several members on the understanding that the adjournment was one *sine die*; and they felt quite as much astonishment as I did when they learnt that the trial was positively to be resumed. On receiving this information, I again addressed the Council:—

“ My Lords and Gentlemen,—I protest against your again proceeding to discuss the question of my removal.

“ 1st. Because that question was entered into a month ago, when all the preliminary forms required by your regulations were fulfilled, all the facts before you, and it was your duty then to have come to a decision. To discuss the question again would be to try me a second time on the same indictment, a thing unknown to any penal tribunal.

“2dly. Because no charge has yet been communicated to me, although I have demanded it from you.

“3dly. Because I have offered to prove to you that the imputations cast on me by students have originated in the intrigues of Mr. Horner and certain of my colleagues, and you have dismissed my charge on Mr. Horner’s answer, without communicating that answer to me, or permitting me to make a reply to it.

“In consequence of an informal notice from your authorized officer to one of my colleagues, which notice is accompanied by an extract from a ‘report of Committee,’ and by a letter from Dr. Davis, proposing to me to accept of two hundred pounds *per annum*\*, for five years, as a compensation for my retirement, I think it right to declare that I will not listen to any proposal for my retirement, which is not founded on a complete vindication of my character, and an avowal from the Council that no charge whatever has been established against me.

“Having obtained this vindication of my character, I offer to refer the terms upon which I shall retire from the University to two persons, one to be chosen by myself and another by you, and a third to be selected by them.

“In the mean time I protest against the injustice and insult I endure by the circulation in the open form of summons, and by the hands of your clerks and porters, of notices for my removal, which tend to injure my professional character.

“I have the honour to be, &c.

“GRANVILLE S. PATTISON.

“*Saturday Morning.*”

Mr. Horner having, in his note to Dr. Davis, referred to in the above communication, stated as a *threat*, that, unless I accepted of the offer which it contained, and consented to receive the paltry and pitiful compensation of two hundred pounds *per annum* for five years, the payment of which was not even to be secured to me, but doled out in the shape of a miserable charity from my colleagues; “*he was quite sure that the Council would proceed to my removal, if I should make that step necessary.*” On the same day on which I sent in the foregoing letter, I went in person to the Council to express the contempt which I felt for the threat of their officer, and to express to them my assurance that they who were to be my judges must feel too much as men of honour to have made any declaration to the Warden, to warrant him in writing such a letter.

At the end of the month my trial came on again, and again my enemies failed in the attempt to ruin me. A quorum of the Council could not be persuaded to attend to sanction an act of such deliberate departure from even the forms of justice, and it was fully understood that the persecutions would at last terminate, and that I should have peace and comfort.

My enemies, however, seemingly aware that the adjourned trial could not accomplish the object they had in view, viz., my dismissal from my Professorships, were, in the interval of the trial, busily engaged in concocting the farce of the “SELECT COMMITTEE.”

The plot was hatched in the council-room of the University, and the par-

\* It is but doing justice to Dr. Davis to give the following extract from his letter conveying this offer:—“I need not tell you, my dear friend, that this arrangement has not originated with me, as you must well remember that my proposal contemplated a larger sum, and for a period of time to be bounded only by an event in Providence, which I have the sincerest pleasure in considering as at a great distance.”

ties, whom I can name if necessary, were assisted in their deliberations by the Warden of the University.

As the most important duty which devolved on the "SELECT COMMITTEE" was to investigate the cause of the disturbances which had arisen in the Institution, and as the conduct of the Professor of Anatomy and of the Warden were involved in this investigation, it was certainly essential to the ends of justice that the members who were to form it should have had no prejudice against, nor bias in favour of either of these parties. But what is the truth? a large majority of the gentlemen who were recommended to the proprietors to form this Committee were the intimate personal friends of Mr. Horner. Mr. Horner will not deny that he attended certain meetings of the requisitionists, who were the most active in the business, and who drew up the list of the Committee for the approval of the general meeting. Mr. Fearon, whose character as an independent gentleman is not to be questioned, they were aware could not attend their meetings, for he had communicated the fact to them that he was going to leave town before he was appointed.

The proceedings of the Select Committee serve as an illustration of the feelings of fairness with which they were actuated. Having addressed a note to them, which was delivered during their first session, stating that if it was true, as rumoured, that it was their intention to inquire into my conduct, I hoped they would permit me to be present during the investigation, to call witnesses, &c. &c. To this most reasonable request I received the following *official* communication:—

" *University of London, July 5th, 1831.*

" Sir,—Your letter addressed to the Chairman of the Select Committee has been received, and I am instructed to reply, that it is their present intention not to enter into the merits of the question between you and your class.

" I am, Sir,

" Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

" JAMES YATES,

" *Professor Pattison.*"

" *Secretary to the Select Committee.*"

The very same day on which this Committee directed their secretary to inform me that "*it was not their present intention to enter into the merits of the question between me and my class,*" a motion was made, and the following day carried, with only one dissentient voice, by the very same Committee, that a communication be sent to the Council expressive of the opinion that "*the continuance of Mr. Pattison is incompatible with the welfare of the University.*" They perhaps thought that, as the object of their appointment was to carry a vote of Council for my expulsion, the only safe way in which they could do so was not to inquire into the merits of my case. Indeed their consciences seem to have been very tender on this head, and most resolutely did they shut their ears and their report against everything which could tend to vindicate my character. In fact they positively refused to allow a member of the Committee to put any question which might have the effect of showing that I had been treated most unjustly, and that the miserable position in which the University was placed had originated solely in the conduct of the Council and their officer.

I am at a loss to understand how gentlemen of character could suffer themselves to be made the "cat's paw" of a party, to consummate a most unjust act.



Having no idea of what had already taken place in the Select Committee, and having been invited, like the other Professors, to wait on them, I cheerfully complied with the invitation, in the hope that I should have had an opportunity to state my case, and therefore, when introduced, begged permission of the Chairman to do so. He told me it was quite unnecessary, as the Committee had already disposed of it. I started with amazement, and exclaimed—" *It is impossible for you, Sir, to have disposed of a case, the facts of which you have not investigated.*" To remove my incredulity, Mr. Greenough read me their resolution, addressed to the Council, recommending my removal, and had then the good taste and good feeling to remark to me, that if I had any suggestion to offer, which might promote the interests of the University (from which they recommended my dismissal), the Committee would be happy to hear me. My reader will not be surprised when I inform him, that I did not avail myself of this *indulgence*. I immediately retired, and sent into the Select Committee the following protest, with a request that it should be transmitted to the Council along with their resolution.

"The Chairman of the Special Committee appointed to inquire into the affairs of the University, having this day read me a resolution by which a majority of the Committee recommend to the Council my removal from the University, I now enter my solemn protest against that resolution, as being an act of the most flagrant injustice, and that for the following reasons:—

"First, Because it was resolved on, by the Committee's own acknowledgment, *without any investigation whatever* of the merits of the case.

"Secondly, Because the Committee acknowledge that they have received no charges against me, and that this their decision has been come to, merely on hearsay statements, which they pretend make it appear expedient that I should be removed from the University.

"Thirdly, Because the Committee have refused to listen to the statement, which I not only offered to make them, but pressed them to hear, and which, I assert, if listened to without prejudice, must have established in the clearest manner my competency, and vindicated my character from the false and calumnious charges made against me.

"Fourthly, Because by a note received last Tuesday from the Secretary of the Committee, I was officially informed that it was *not their intention to inquire into my case*.

"Fifthly, Because, whatever may be the motives of the Committee in coming to such a decision, it is in the last degree prejudicial to my character and interests, and will be as injurious to me as it is manifestly unjust.

"GRANVILLE S. PATTISON.

"*University of London, July 9th, 1831.*"

Captain Gowan, a member of the Select Committee, a gentleman whom I did not before know, but whose noble and manly conduct I shall ever gratefully acknowledge and remember, disgusted at the gross injustice with which the "Select Committee" had acted, sent into the Council at the same time, a memorial, of which he afterwards sent me a copy. It is as follows:—

“ *London University, July 6th, 1831.* ”

“ PROTEST BY CAPTAIN GOWAN. ”

“ Viewing the nature of the charges (of incompetency alone) preferred against Professor Pattison by his pupils, and which have been, after a patient investigation by the Council, declared futile and groundless ;

“ Viewing the omission of the Council to follow up that decision with the adoption of vigorous and adequate measures, to prevent the recurrence of similar unwarrantable complaints, and thereby virtually encouraging his pupils, by such impunity, to repeat their misconduct and insolence towards Professor Pattison ;

“ Seeing that the Council did likewise, on several subsequent occasions, not proceed to act with due promptitude and vigour to correct the insubordination when it remanifested itself in Professor Pattison’s class ;

“ Viewing also the numerous and highly favourable testimonials presented by Professor Pattison, signed by many of the most eminent and celebrated members of the medical profession, both in Europe and America, as well as from several of his colleagues in the London University, and other able and distinguished literary gentlemen ;

“ And finally, viewing the fact that Professor Pattison has not been heard by the Select Committee at all, but virtually refused, by being by letter told that ‘ it is their present intention *not* to enter into the merits of the question between him and his class,’ and notwithstanding this, that the Select Committee do proceed to recommend to the Council arbitrarily to remove him from his Professorship, guilty or not guilty ; at the same time, giving him no notice thereof, or any opportunity of vindicating his conduct or character, or even of explaining the causes of the evils attributed to him, as operating to the prejudice of the interests of the University ; thereby rendering the impartiality, candour, and justice of the Select Committee’s proceedings liable to be questioned :

“ For the foregoing reasons, I do most earnestly deprecate and protest against the proposed communication by the Committee to the Council, recommending Professor Pattison’s removal from his situation in the University, as premature at least ; as inflicting a monstrous and irreparable injury on his professional reputation ; as presenting a cruel instance of mere expediency being preferred to reason and justice, and therefore bringing discredit on the character of the University, and inspiring disrespect and distrust not only in the public mind, but in the minds of the Professors themselves, as has been already strongly stated in a memorial signed by six of them, who will necessarily feel the complete insecurity of their offices, held, as it were, at the pleasure or caprice of their pupils ; whence the success of the University will be obstructed, and its very existence brought into jeopardy.

“ W. M. GOWAN, Member of the Select Committee. ”

“ *To the Council of the University of London.* ”

I was astonished at a statement delivered by the Attorney-General at the late general meeting of the proprietors. I feel too much respect for the character of the Right Honourable Gentleman to allow myself for a moment to believe that he would deliberately state what he knew to be false ; and I feel, therefore, convinced that, when he positively declared that, “ although the Council were to enter on the discussion of my re-

removal after the meeting of the Proprietors had separated, that the recommendation of their Select Committee had had no effect in inducing them to enter on the consideration of that question," he spoke without a knowledge of the true state of the case. The Council, it is true, attempt, in their minute for my dismissal, to make it appear that such was the fact, and that they have acted on the suggestion of a Select Committee of their own body, of the 18th of June, 1831, and not on the recommendation of the "Select Committee" appointed by the Proprietors. Two attempts, as I have proved in the preceding history, were made by the Council to remove me after they received the report of the "Select Committee" of their own body, *and in both they had failed to accomplish it.* After the last attempt, which only took place on the Thursday before the appointment of the Select Committee of the Proprietors, all further proceedings were abandoned, and it was perfectly understood that the affair had terminated. But it is unnecessary to employ arguments to prove that the Council acted on the recommendation of the "SELECT COMMITTEE" of the Proprietors, in proceeding to my expulsion from the University. The following notice, issued by the Council on the very same day on which they received it, and sent to the different members, proves the fact. It will be observed that the notices of motion which follow the announcement of the report from the Select Committee of the Proprietors, are both intended to accomplish the recommendation it contains—my dismissal.

" July 9th, 1831.

" A communication was this day received from the Select Committee of Proprietors, declaring it to be their opinion that the continuance of Mr. Pattison is incompatible with the welfare of the University.

" At the Session of Council on Wednesday next, Mr. Warburton is to move for declaring invalid certain resolutions of the 13th and 20th of June, 1829, regarding the suspension or removal of Professors.

" Mr. Baring\* gave notice, that on this day fortnight he should move for taking into consideration the immediate removal of Professor Pattison."

Immediately after the meeting of the Proprietors, which had been called for receiving the report of the Select Committee, had been dissolved, a Session of Council was formed; and in *two hours afterwards* I received the following letter:—

" University of London, 23rd July, 1831.

" My dear Sir,—I beg, by direction of the Council, to transmit to you the following extract from their minutes of this day:—

" ' Session of Council, 23rd July, 1831.

" ' The Council, in concurrence with the suggestion contained in the report of the Select Committee of this Council, of the 18th of June, 1831, " that the popularity and efficiency of the Medical School have received a shock by the disturbances which have prevailed in it, and which can only be obviated by the retirement of Professor Pattison from the Chairs of Anatomy and Surgery ;" and deeming it, therefore, essential to the well-

\* This is Mr. Bingham Baring, the HAMPSHIRE MAGISTRATE, who, at the very time he gave notice of this motion for the expulsion and ruin of a gentleman against whom there was no impeachment, was complaining most bitterly of the press for accusing him of inhumanity, when they had no better evidence of the fact than the verdict of a jury and the decision of a court of justice !

being of the University and the success of the Medical School, that Professor Pattison should not any longer continue to occupy those Chairs ;—

“ ‘ Resolved,—That Professor Pattison be, and he is hereby removed from his situations of Professor of Anatomy and Surgery in this University.

“ ‘ Resolved,—That, in taking this step, the Council feel it due to Professor Pattison to state, that nothing which has come to their knowledge with respect to his conduct has in any way tended to impeach either his general character or his professional skill and knowledge.’

“ I am, my dear Sir, with great regard, yours,

“ THOMAS COATES.

“ *To Professor Pattison, &c. &c.*”

I have now laid before the Proprietors and the public a history of my connexion with the University of London ; and of this I feel confident, that whatever verdict they may pronounce on the conduct of the Council, they will allow that I was fully entitled to receive the following resolution transmitted to me by that body, along with their SENTENCE for my EXPULSION :

“ RESOLVED, THAT, IN TAKING THIS STEP (MY DISMISSAL), THE COUNCIL FEEL IT DUE TO PROFESSOR PATTISON TO STATE, THAT NOTHING WHICH HAS COME TO THEIR KNOWLEDGE WITH RESPECT TO HIS CONDUCT HAS IN ANY WAY TENDED TO IMPEACH EITHER HIS GENERAL CHARACTER OR HIS PROFESSIONAL SKILL AND KNOWLEDGE.”

In the foregoing statement, I have endeavoured to avoid as much as possible comment and observations. I have confined myself to a simple narrative of the facts, leaving my readers to make their own reflections upon it ; and in the concluding remarks I shall be very brief.

I have proved, first, that in every investigation undertaken by the Council into the question of my competency and conduct as a professor (and these in number and character are unparalleled in the history of any academical institution in the world), my reputation has, by *their own decisions*, been most completely vindicated. Secondly, that the Council were fully informed that a party existed amongst certain of my colleagues and the Warden, who had “ *conspired with one another to gain an end\**” (my removal from

\* In corroboration of this, I may give a few extracts from the published confession of Dr. Alexander Thomson, the son of Professor Thomson. It is not to be supposed that a SON would exaggerate facts to criminate the conduct and character of a FATHER. The first are taken from the paper published in the twenty-ninth Number of the London Medical and Surgical Journal, which has been before quoted :—

“ In the mean time the Professors” (alluding to Drs. Thomson and Turner) “ took every occasion to blame the supineness of the medalists, to make complaints personally to the members of the Council, to *cultivate the dissatisfaction of the pupils.*”—p. 439. “ Mr. Bell had already tendered his resignation, and had explicitly stated, or had been understood to state, in his valedictory lecture, ‘ that unless one teacher was removed from the school, he would not again have the honour and pleasure of addressing his pupils.’ ”—p. 440. (*Mr. Bell did make this declaration, as can be easily proved.*—G. S. P.) “ That several of the Professors declared unequivocally, publicly, privately, unreservedly, that they would leave the Institution if Pattison remained ; and one went so far (*this was Dr. A. Todd Thomson, his father, as Mr. Kennell can prove.*—G. S. P.) as to say to the Clerk in the robing-room, *before all the menials* of the institution, that unless Professor Pattison was *dismissed*, he might consider his shares in the market.”—p. 440. I might quote many more passages from the same paper, but the above I consider sufficient. The next extracts which I give are taken from a letter published by the same Dr. Alexander Thomson, or, as he calls himself, the “ King’s Evidence.” They, if possible, establish the fact of the conspiracy against me more conclusively than the foregoing. “ That Professors Turner and Thomson asserted in my presence, and in that of many others, that unless the ‘ *odious man*’ were dismissed, they would leave the school, and that I

the University). Thirdly, that the acts of insubordination and riot which have disgraced the University of London during the past session, were encouraged by the conduct of the Council. That, in fact, their proceedings, as must have been apparent to any person at all conversant with the discipline of a University, could not fail to produce all the disturbances which have occurred.

Yet, with a knowledge of all these facts, the Council, for the purpose of remedying the evils which have arisen from their own misconduct, have, in violation of every principle of honour and justice, pronounced sentence of EXPULSION against a gentleman, declaring at the same moment, that "*nothing which has come to their knowledge, with respect to his conduct, has in any way tended to impeach either his general character or his professional skill and knowledge.*" I REPEAT THE FACT, THAT WITHOUT CHARGE OR IMPEACHMENT, THEY HAVE PRONOUNCED THE SENTENCE OF EXPULSION, WHICH, AS AN ACADEMICAL PENALTY, CORRESPONDS TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IN THE PENAL CODE, AND IS THEREFORE NEVER RESORTED TO EXCEPT IN CASES OF THE UTMOST DELINQUENCY AGAINST ONE OF THEIR PROFESSORS.

I now address myself to the Proprietors of the University, and ask if this act of injustice perpetrated by the Council is to receive their sanction? If a gentleman who has sacrificed an income of above 2000*l. per annum* to engage in their service, whose conduct and character has been triumphantly vindicated from every charge, is to be reduced from a state of independence to one of absolute ruin and beggary?

If the Council thought that my retirement from the University had become desirable, from the disturbances which had occurred, convinced, as they must have been, that these had arisen from no misconduct on my part, but from the intrigues of their officer and certain of my colleagues, and from their own indecision, imbecility, and *mala fides* in the management of the discipline of the Institution, surely every principle of equity and good feeling demanded that they should have taken care, that in retiring I should have done so with a character on which no suspicion could rest, and with ample compensation for the loss I had sustained. The Council knew well enough that I am not a man of fortune, for I have not concealed from

might assure Eisdell and the others that they would assist them to the utmost in procuring his dismissal." "Remember the promises, the faithless, woman-like promises, *you made to Eisdell*, the painful earnestness you listened to, and cultivated the discontent of the pupils," &c., &c. I assert that the above passages prove in the most unanswerable manner the fact of *the students being incited to mutiny*: and so incited and supported in their insubordination by the acts of the Council, is it wonderful that I should have become unpopular with a large party? But although the inevitable consequence of such proceedings was to render my lectures much less popular than they would otherwise have been, it is a remarkable fact, and one well deserving of attention, that although, ever since my connexion with the University, everything has been done to blast my reputation, and to depress the energies of my mind, whilst the fame of Drs. Turner and Thomson as teachers has been cherished, still the proportionate decrease this last session in their numbers, in Dr. Thomson's particularly, is very much greater than in mine. But, it may be said, the pupils entered for my class to have the benefit of attending Mr. Bennett's lectures. Such, however, is not the fact. By merely paying the fee to the dissecting-room, the pupils were admitted to Mr. Bennett's lectures. Indeed, from my hour of lecturing being from two till three o'clock, and the hour for hospital attendance from half-past twelve till two o'clock, it would have been much more convenient for the students to have entered only for the dissecting-rooms at the University, this admitting them to Mr. Bennett, who lectured from eleven till twelve o'clock, and to have feed the lectures of one of the anatomical teachers at the hospital where they "walked the wards." The fact of their not having done so, proves the estimation in which my lectures were held *even* at the commencement of the last session,

them my circumstances; they know that, from the proceedings they have for the last three years been pursuing in relation to me, they have completely ruined my practice as a Surgeon, which, when I commenced my lectures in the University, was considerable, and was in a fair way of increasing most rapidly—*for I had then a high reputation*. Instead, however, of doing so, they, in so far as they had the power, blast my reputation, and send me from the University an **EXPULSED PROFESSOR**; and they reject a proposal made by Dr. Birkbeck for compensation to me, which could have been secured without encroaching on the funds of the University. Nothing, it would seem, but my absolute ruin would satisfy the Warden and certain members of the Council. I say of certain members of the Council; for it affords me pleasure to state, that there are a considerable number of its members who have invariably acted in a manner the most honourable to me, and have done all in their power, but in vain, to induce their colleagues to pursue a correct line of conduct.

Lastly, I would call the attention of the Proprietors to the ruinous operation which the mismanagement of the Council has exerted on the interest and prosperity of the University. No Institution ever commenced under fairer prospects, and no body of Professors ever engaged in the service of a University with a warmer devotion to its interests. The enthusiasm and zeal of the Professors have, however, been met with the most chilling suspicion. Instead of receiving the treatment to which their acquirements, as men of science and literature, entitled them, they have been treated like a set of menials and hirelings, their suggestions treated with neglect and contempt, and their best services rarely rewarded even with the meed of approbation. **IN THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, THE SYSTEM PURSUED HAS BEEN TO DEGRADE THE CHARACTER AND AUTHORITY OF THE PROFESSORS, AND TO COURT, BY THE MOST CONTEMPTIBLE COMPLIANCES, THE FAVOUR OF THE STUDENTS.** As might have been expected, the effect of this system has been completely to alienate the affections of the Professors from the Institution; and, alarming as the fact is, it is nevertheless true, that those Professors whose talents are the most valuable to the University are so disgusted with the manner in which its affairs have been administered, that they are now most anxious to leave it, and many of them are actually engaged in making arrangements to do so.

This statement is not exaggerated; and I would therefore call on the Proprietors to come forward, and, by a complete revolution in their government, rescue from the ruin which awaits it, the magnificent Institution of which they were the founders, which, on its foundation, promised, and which may even yet confer, the most exalted benefits on their country.

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