

A statement of the symptoms for which bleeding was thought necessary and adopted, in the case of the late Mr. Leycester [addressed to Rev. E. Stanley] : in reply to an opinion, put forth by Mr. Holland, that such a step was injudicious / [John Harrison].

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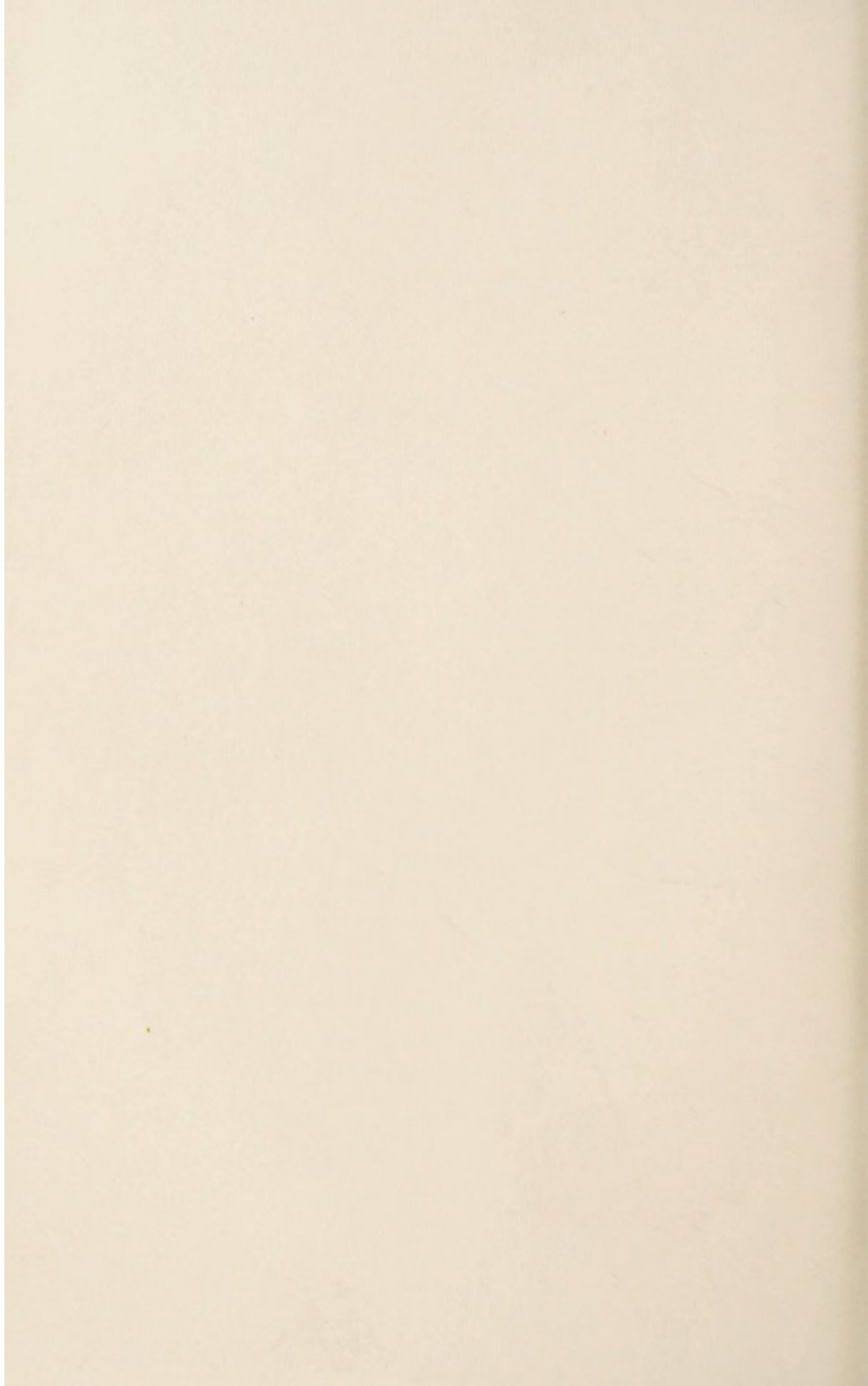
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[A]

A STATEMENT

OF

THE SYMPTOMS

FOR WHICH BLEEDING WAS THOUGHT NECESSARY

AND ADOPTED,

IN THE CASE OF THE LATE MR. LEYCESTER;

IN REPLY TO AN OPINION,

PUT FORTH BY MR. HOLLAND,

THAT SUCH A STEP WAS INJUDICIOUS AND UNNECESSARY,

BY JOHN HARRISON.

KNUTSFORD:

PRINTED BY J. SWINNERTON.

1835.

A STATEMENT

OF THE SYMPTOMS



FOR WHICH A REPLY WAS MADE BY THE
AND ANSWERS

IN THE CASE OF THE EARL OF LANSDOWN

IN REPLY TO AN ORDER



FOR WHICH A REPLY WAS MADE BY THE
AND ANSWERS

BY JOHN HARRISON

LONDON:

PRINTED BY J. JOHNSON

1787

STATEMENT.



To the Rev. EDWARD STANLEY.

SIR,

As you were the first person from whom I received any authentic account that Mr. Holland, in his conversations with different people, was leading them to infer that my bleeding Mr. Leycester was both improper and uncalled for, and as I am quite aware that he was most unwearied in his exertions to give an extensive circulation to such an opinion; I have, for the first reason, thought it proper to address the few following observations to you; and the second compels me, in justice to myself, to put forth such a statement of the case, together with my reasons for adopting such a measure, as may enable those persons, who have hitherto heard but one side of the story, to judge how far such a step was necessary, and how far Mr. Holland was justified in committing so unprofessional a breach of propriety as to question for a moment the treatment which he never witnessed. My own character as a professional man demands this from me; for were I to allow such an impression to remain unnoticed as that which Mr. Holland's account

of the case has made upon the minds of many people to whom I have no other access than through the medium of my present proceeding, they would naturally take it for granted that I had no vindication to offer, and (to use the words of Dr. Holland) that Mr. Leycester's life had been sacrificed by my injudicious and indiscreet conduct. Happily for me, my treatment of Mr. Leycester has received too high a sanction for all the attempts of Mr. Holland to destroy. I trust I shall be enabled to shew in what I have presently to state, that not only was the bleeding not unnecessary and uncalled for, but that by its omission Mr. Leycester would have fallen a much earlier sacrifice to the complaint than he did ; for with the symptoms which existed at the time that I was called in to see Mr. Leycester, I have no hesitation whatever in stating as my conviction that he could not possibly have existed for very many hours unless relieved by a proper and judicious use of the lancet. In confirmation of this opinion, I shall here take the opportunity of stating what I have Dr. Robinson's authority for doing,—that any thing short of the measures which were adopted in the first instance would have been a highly culpable omission, and that had he not likewise been bled, it would have been both a scandal and disgrace to the profession. I shall here quote a passage from a letter of Dr. Robinson's, which I received subsequent to Mr. Leycester's death, in reply to one which contained a mere announcement of Mr. Leycester's decease, without any allusion whatever to the

reports which were then put in circulation by Mr. Holland, respecting the bleeding. “For many reasons (I speak as a Medical man) a cure in this case was much to be coveted, but I see no reason for reproach : and upon a careful revision of the whole phenomena of the attack, I cannot fix upon any error of omission or commission. You are entitled to your full share of praise for honesty, zeal, and ability in the performance of the awful duty committed to you by the friends, and justice will be rendered.” In quoting this opinion of Dr. Robinson’s, I would here beg to observe, that it was perfectly voluntary, and I must be allowed to add, that he was not nominated by me to see Mr. Leicester, but was sent for on the second day of my attendance upon Mr. Leicester, during my absence for a few hours from the house, and was actually upon his way to Toft before I was at all aware that he was even coming. I mention this, because it has been intimated to me, that it was generally believed Dr. Robinson was my nominee to the family, and therefore, whatever I said and did he was sure to confirm. Dr. Robinson’s character as a Physician is too well known and stands too high to make it at all necessary for me to shew how utterly incapable he is of compromising his opinion to favour any one, or of acting in the way, which it has been suggested, he might have done.

There is one circumstance connected with this affair which I cannot pass over without making some allusion to it, and as it is not very generally

known, I shall here take the opportunity of mentioning it. I have been informed, upon the very best authority, which I am quite prepared to give up, if necessary, that at several dinner parties in London, at which many of the families from this immediate neighbourhood were present, Dr. Holland took every possible opportunity of impressing upon their minds the idea that Mr. Leycester had died solely from the effects of his being over-bled. Dr. Holland, however, upon every occasion, forgot to state that his father had been first called in to see Mr. Leycester, and had subsequently been dismissed; which omission, I can have no doubt, was intentional; and had it not been for one to whom I feel much indebted, it would have remained quietly unnoticed, that Mr. Holland had ever seen Mr. Leycester at all. In my opinion, Dr. Holland was not called upon to give the gratuitous opinion he did upon any part of Mr. Leycester's treatment, and not being ignorant of the circumstances under which his father's services had been dispensed with, I think delicacy alone, should have induced him to be less liberal in his condemnation of the treatment of another practitioner.

If bleeding was not necessary in Mr. Leycester's case, in the first instance, I could very easily inform Dr. Holland what rendered it so subsequently.

As the bleeding appears to have been the only part of the treatment which Mr. Holland considers to have been improper, I shall confine myself to that part of it; and endeavour to shew, I trust satisfactorily, that with the symptoms which presented themselves at

the time that I was called in to see Mr. Leycester, nothing could possibly justify the omission of a full depletion; but before proceeding to do so, I shall here make a few observations to meet the opinion which Mr. Holland has given, upon the inability of Mr. Leycester to bear depletion, on account of some peculiarity of his constitution. So absurd an opinion will require but very little to refute it, for if Mr. Leycester's constitution had been so peculiar, how happened it that the depletion in every form, viz. bleeding in the arm, the application of leeches, and cupping, which he suffered at Dorfold but a very few years ago, how happened it, I say, that this did not annihilate him upon that occasion? And again, if Mr. Leycester had become the subject of inflammation, or apoplexy, or termination of blood to the head, or any other complaint for which bleeding is usually recommended, what would Mr. Holland have done for Mr. Leycester under such circumstances? Why, according to his own words, as Mr. Leycester's constitution was not one that would bear the loss of blood without risk of evil, of course, he could not conscientiously have bled him. Nothing can possibly be so ridiculous as to attempt to lay down any single rule by which alone any individual is to be treated, or in other words, to say that a person's constitution will not bear this or that mode of treatment: no such rule can be observed, for though the most delicate female in the world would not, under ordinary circumstances, admit of being bled, it is totally impossible to say how soon such a step may become indispensably

necessary. I am quite willing to admit that to know the constitution of a patient is a very desirable acquisition; but to presume upon that knowledge to say without any qualification, that such a person is *never* to be bled, is in my opinion, an indication of the grossest ignorance; for in this very case before us any person, medical or non-medical, would naturally have said, to look at Mr. Leycester, that he was not a subject that would bear bleeding, and yet in his illness and treatment at Dorfold, we have the most undeniable proof of its necessity, and of his being able to bear it. For the truth of this observation, I refer to Dr. Cumming, who was his medical attendant at the time.

Although it is not my intention to make any observations on the treatment which was adopted previous to my seeing Mr. Leycester, I think it quite right that it should be stated. The first indication of indisposition which Mr. Leycester had was upon the Tuesday; he then complained of transient pains in the chest, extending down the arms, which he supposed to be spasmodic, proceeding from cold;—he took some sal volatile and ether, and the chest was rubbed with a stimulating embrocation, which had the effect of relieving the pain. On Wednesday, the pain increasing in severity, Mr. Holland was sent for, and he confirmed the opinion which both the family and Mr. Leycester had previously entertained, viz. that it was spasmodic, from the effects of cold; and *approved* of the ether and sal volatile being continued and repeated upon each return of the

spasm, which was accordingly done, but without the effect of affording the same relief that they had done in the first instance ; in addition to which Mr. Holland directed a couple of aperient pills of his own to be given. At that time the family were so struck with the appearance of the tongue, that two of them suggested to Mr. Holland the propriety of giving Calomel, to which he decidedly objected, observing that there was no necessity for it. During the night of Wednesday, Mr. Leycester had several returns of the pain, each attack increasing in violence, and continuing for a longer period. On Thursday morning Mr. Leycester was much worse ; at ten o'clock Mr. Holland visited him, and still persisted in the same opinion as to the complaint being spasmodic—*directed* the ether in doses of two tea spoonsful, and one of sal volatile, to be given as before—ordered the embrocation to be continued as usual—and sent him a night draught to be taken at bed time, but of what kind I do not pretend to say. At five o'clock in the afternoon I was sent for, and found him precisely in the following situation :—He complained of acute and very violent pain immediately over the pit of the stomach, accompanied by a sensation of burning which extended into the throat ; upon pressure the pain was much increased. There were violent pains in the head, with considerable throbbing in the temples, and the vessels which run superficially upon them, viz. the temporal artery and its branches were not merely visible, as is usually the case with aged and attenuated people, but they

stood out in an unusual degree, evidently distended, and the throbbing of them was visible to the eye at a very considerable distance. The tongue was covered with a white thick fur from base to tip, so much so that it would have been impossible to have found a place upon which the head of a pin could have rested, that was not so. The pulse was full, frequent and throbbing, beating in the course of a minute one hundred and nineteen strokes. The pulsation of the carotid arteries in the neck was precisely of the same character as the pulse in the wrist. There was a yellow bilious tinge over the whole of the face and neck, and Mr. Leycester could not remain in the same position for more than two or three minutes, on account of the extreme suffering referable to the pit of the stomach.—Upon inquiry as to the state of the bowels, I was told that they had been relieved twice in the course of that morning, and not wishing to put more questions to Mr. Leycester than were absolutely necessary, seeing that his sufferings were so great, I contented myself with the report which he had given of them. This being previous to my examination of the tongue, I was satisfied to hear that they had been twice relieved; but the moment I became acquainted with the appearance of that organ, I thought it necessary to be more particular in my inquiries, and in reply to them, I learnt that the evacuations of the morning were merely like unto earth worms in circumference, small, scanty, and offensive, and that they had been so for some time. Satisfied in my own mind that these were merely

from the lower bowel, and that there was both obstruction and considerable irritation higher up, which would in all probability go on to inflammation if unchecked,—I immediately proposed, taking all the symptoms into consideration, and bearing in mind at the same time the tendency of blood to the head to which I was aware Mr. Leycester had been liable, to remove a small quantity of blood. Knowing the circumstances under which I had been called in to see Mr. Leycester, I was doubly cautious in making a very attentive examination of every symptom; and where I considered the family could judge as well as myself of some of the symptoms, I directed their attention to them. Those to which I particularly requested them to look, were the appearance of the blood vessels of the head, the state of the tongue, and the character of the pulse; and I have no doubt they will willingly bear their testimony to the accuracy with which I have detailed them. During the operation of bleeding, Mr. Leycester sat in a perfectly upright posture, and neither at the time nor afterwards did he complain of any thing like fainting, nor was there the least change of any kind visible in his countenance. After the abstraction of about twelve ounces of blood, there was a considerable abatement of pain, and not wishing to take away more than was absolutely necessary, I bound up the arm, and waited the effect. In the course of half an hour there was a recurrence of pain, and I opened the vein again and let about six more ounces of blood. I should however have observed that

after the first bleeding there was no change whatever in the pulse, the countenance was totally unaffected by it, and Mr. Leycester got up and walked about the room as firmly as ever. To the second bleeding there succeeded a *total and complete remission of pain and uneasiness of any kind*; and from that moment to his dying hour Mr. Leycester never complained of the slightest return. On the following morning the pulse had sunk to ninety, possessing at the same time very considerable strength, and even after the second depletion there was not the slightest complaint or appearance either of syncope or any state at all approaching to it. I then gave him five grains of calomel, which was followed up in the course of a few hours by a black draught and other active aperients which never operated until that day week. The appearance of the blood was decidedly buffy. As a further proof how slight an effect the bleeding had had upon Mr. Leycester, I would just mention that on the Friday, when Dr. Robinson first saw him, he had so great an apprehension of an affection of the head, that he directed, in the event of the symptoms which were then present continuing or increasing, that leeches should be applied to the temples; for which purpose, the person who usually applies them was in attendance the whole of the night; but eventually, a blister was used in lieu of them. Such being a faithful and correct account of the symptoms which induced me to bleed Mr. Leycester, I would ask any person, capable of judging, what other measures I could or ought to have resorted to,

to relieve his present and urgent sufferings? Now, Sir, without wishing to pass any opinion upon Mr. Holland's treatment, I would just beg to be allowed to ask one or two questions. If the complaint had been spasmodic, how happened it that those liberal doses of ether and salvolatile did not allay the spasm, but on the contrary, increased the pain each time that they were administered? If the tongue had not been white and loaded, which Mr. Holland says it was not, why should the idea of administering calomel have occurred to the minds of those who suggested it? It is my most conscientious belief, and the conviction of another more capable of judging than myself, that if Mr. Leycester had taken calomel in this stage of his illness, painful as the confession is, in all human probability, he would have been alive at this present time. If the bleeding had been improper and uncalled for, how happened it that it produced such immediate and permanent relief, without causing either fainting or any other state at all approaching to it; and if Mr. Leycester had been unable to bear it, why did the pulse not denote a depression of the vital powers, for after the first bleeding the pulse was totally unaffected? Seeing that Mr. Holland had made use of such active anti-spasmodics with the effect not of mitigating but increasing the pain, what other course could I have pursued but the bleeding? Why, Sir, according to Mr. Holland's view of the case, I ought to have waited until that day week for the operation of medicine. What I maintain is, that so far as vindicating his own treatment of Mr.

Leycester, up to the moment of his attending him, Mr. Holland had the most undoubted and perfect right to say what he chose; but I do likewise maintain, that from the hour he ceased to visit Mr. Leycester, the power of questioning the propriety of any other measure that was subsequently adopted by another practitioner, did no longer belong to him, for how was it possible that he could be a competent judge of what was necessary for Mr. Leycester at five in the evening, when his last visit to him was at ten in the morning; and what, I would ask, could possibly justify Mr. Holland's volunteering all over the country his opinion that the bleeding was uncalled for.

Reports having become very general that Mr. Holland was giving publicity to his opinion of the impropriety of bleeding Mr. Leycester, in every direction, and your name having been mentioned as one to whom he had expressed such an opinion, I addressed the following letter to you, (a copy of which I subjoin,) being anxious, before commencing any correspondence with Mr. Holland, to possess sufficient and satisfactory data upon which to ground my complaint.

“ Knutsford, Thursday, June 4, 1835.

“ DEAR SIR,—Conceiving that a very gross imputation has been cast on my professional character by the animadversions of Mr. Holland, on the treatment of Mr. Leycester, subsequent to his attendance upon him; and thinking as I do, that no man has a right to question the propriety of treatment which he never witnessed, and of which he could form no

idea except by hearsay, I feel that I am bound in justification of myself, to put a stop to such unwarrantable and unprofessional conduct on the part of Mr. Holland, and put forth to the friends of the family, a true statement of the facts and circumstances of the case as they appeared during my attendance upon Mr. Leycester. Before doing so, however, I am anxious to ascertain correctly what Mr. Holland's account of the case is, and as I understand from Mrs. Leycester that it was detailed to you by Mr. Holland,—would you have any objections to commit to paper, as far as your recollection will enable you, the precise statement which you received from Mr. Holland, when last you saw him.

“I request this under a promise that no further use shall be made of it without your sanction ; at the same time, I am bound to inform you that in the event of Mr. Holland's refusal to retract every expression which I conceive to be either untrue or offensive, it is my intention to adopt such measures as will entitle me to the fullest satisfaction.

“I am,

“Your obliged and faithful servant,

“JOHN HARRISON.”

“The Rev. E. Stanley,
Alderley.”

“Alderley Rectory, June 8, 1835.

“MY DEAR SIR,—Your letter dated the 5th, only reached me by this evening's post, which will account for my not having sent an earlier answer. It was during a long conversation on various subjects, connected with what I had

seen and done in London, that Mr. Holland, on my alluding to Mr. Leycester's death, certainly did lead me to infer that he thought bleeding, under the circumstances of the case, undesirable ; but as the conversation was in great degree confidential, I doubt whether I should have thought it right to mention even this, had I not heard it from other quarters, emanating as I believe from himself, and therefore not intended to be kept a secret. Of course, not being a medical man, I can be no judge of the propriety or impropriety of such a measure ; but I am bound in candour to add, that I thought your representation, when I saw you at Toft on Saturday, fully warranted you in adopting it.

“ I remain, my dear Sir,

“ Yours truly,

“ EDWARD STANLEY.”

“ John Harrison, Esq.
Knutsford.”

Immediately upon the receipt of this, which contains a confirmation of what I had heard, I addressed Mr. Holland in the following words :—

“ SIR,—I have heard with very great surprise, from a variety of sources, and I am led to believe that the report has originated entirely with yourself, that the propriety of bleeding Mr. Leycester at the time I was called in to see him, has not only been questioned by yourself, but has been deemed both undesirable and unjustifiable—not wishing to rely merely upon hearsay for the accuracy of such a report, I have since the funeral of Mr. Leycester—(the earliest possible time that

I could make such an application)—addressed a Letter to Mr. Stanley, of Alderley, he being one of the many persons to whom you expressed your opinion of the impropriety of the bleeding, requesting to be informed whether any communication of that nature had been made to him by you. His reply confirms the truth of what I had previously heard, and places the possibility of the report originating with any one but yourself beyond a doubt. I therefore quote his words, which are as follow. “ It was during a long “ conversation on various subjects connected with what I had “ seen and done in London, that Mr. Holland, on my alluding “ to Mr. Leycester’s death, certainly did lead me to infer that “ he thought bleeding under the circumstances of the case “ undesirable, but as the conversation was in great degree “ confidential, I doubt whether I should have thought it right “ to mention even this, had I not heard it from other quarters “ emanating as I believe from himself, and therefore not “ intended to be kept a secret.” Not merely content with spreading such a report in the country, which you must both know and feel to be highly prejudicial to my professional character, I have been informed upon the very best authority which I am quite prepared to give up, if necessary, that another member of your family has been equally as industrious as yourself, in conveying to the minds of the Cheshire families resident in London, the same impression with regard to the bleeding ; and to no one but yourself could he be indebted for such information. I am quite at a loss to understand how any medical man dare venture to impugn the treatment of another, never either seeing the patient or the symptoms which were present. You will not, I think, be very much surprised to hear, that I consider the part which you have

taken in this matter as intended to convey a gross imputation upon my professional character ; and I have no hesitation in declaring that such conduct is highly unprofessional—perfectly ungentlemanlike,—and altogether unwarrantable. How, I would ask, was it possible for you who had seen Mr. Leycester at eleven in the morning, to be any judge of his sufferings or his situation at five in the evening ; how could you or any other person presume to say that he did not require bleeding, and even supposing that I had not been a competent judge of the state of Mr. Leycester's pulse, could any thing justify your opinion that he did not require bleeding ? The inference which the deprecation of the bleeding would lead any one to deduce that heard merely your mis-statement would be, that Mr. Leycester had been improperly treated, and that I did not understand when a pulse did or did not indicate bleeding. So serious an imputation I cannot in justice to myself allow to be so lightly passed over, and whilst I shall be happy to give you every opportunity of forming an opinion upon the propriety of my treatment of Mr. Leycester, I wish you distinctly to understand, that unless a retraction is instantly made of the expressions which you have so liberally and so unfairly made, I shall institute such a public inquiry into the facts and circumstances of the case as the vindication of my professional character and the importance of the subject demands.

“ I am,

“ Your obedient Servant,

“ JOHN HARRISON.”

“ Mr. Holland.”

Mr. Holland's reply was as follows:—

“25, Lower Brook-street, June 13, 1835.

“SIR,—The delay in answering your Letter has arisen from my receiving it in London, and not till late last night. I shall make my reply to it as brief as possible.

“Inquiries had been repeatedly made of me, from various quarters, whether I considered bleeding necessary or desirable in Mr. Leycester's case. These inquiries were perfectly natural when it was known that I had been in the habit of attending him for a long period of years, and had seen him professionally only a few hours before. My answers to such inquiries uniformly were, that when I last saw him, between ten and eleven in the morning, there was assuredly nothing to indicate the necessity of bleeding—anything quite the reverse. That my knowledge of his constitution led me to consider it one which could ill bear the loss of blood without risque of evil; and that I had difficulty in conceiving the circumstances of the case so altered as to render bleeding expedient in the afternoon of the same day, only five or six hours after I had left him.

“I was the more called upon to answer such questions, as in some instances they were connected with a report which I found had been raised (from what source I have never inquired) that I ought to have had recourse to bleeding in my own previous treatment of the case.

“What I have stated is the tenor of the answers I have given when the subject has been introduced, and inquiries made from me.

“ I might have added, and with reason, that there was a total departure from professional usage and courtesy in your not making the slightest communication to me on the subject, after you had been desired to visit Mr. Leycester, seeing that I was in actual attendance at the time ; and that where the sole object was the welfare of the patient, such communication, after I had seen him so recently, might not improbably have been useful.

“ I recollect no expressions I have used which I feel myself called upon in any way to retract. Should my explanation not be satisfactory to you, you will institute whatever inquiry you may think proper. I can have no possible objection to it, if carried on in such a way as not to hurt the feelings of the friends of the late Mr. Leycester.

“ I am,

“ Your obedient Servant,

“ P. HOLLAND.”

“ Mr. Harrison.”

Conceiving that in this reply Mr. Holland had as completely blinked the question as he well could do, and had stated that it was merely in reply to enquiries made to him upon the subject, that he condemned the measure of bleeding,—whereas I was perfectly aware that in most instances he had *volunteered* such an opinion, in proof of which I am ready to name at least half a dozen people to whom he offered his opinion,—I repeated my charge against him in the following letter :—

“ Knutsford, Thursday Afternoon, June 23, 1835.

“ SIR,—I thought it better during your absence in London to suspend the correspondence until your return.— In resuming it, I beg to observe that your letter of the thirteenth appears to me to be so very evasive and unsatisfactory, that I cannot for a moment receive it as any explanation; and lest you should have mistaken the purport of the complaint contained in my former letter, I beg leave to repeat it. I maintain that from the moment you ceased to attend Mr. Leycester, you had no right whatever either to question or condemn the propriety of the treatment which was subsequently adopted by me, whether you did so in the form of reply to any inquiries which might have been made from you, or whether, as I am assured was much more commonly the case, you volunteered such an opinion; seeing that your not being present to judge of the symptoms which actually existed at that time, (viz.) the time of my being called in, you were not justified in giving any opinion as to the propriety or impropriety either of the bleeding or any other measure.

“ The feelings of a gentleman would induce you to admit, that not being present at the time I was called in to see Mr. Leycester, you cannot pretend to say whether the measures which were made use of subsequent to your seeing him, were proper or improper. As to any private feeling of your own, whether bleeding was right or wrong, I have nothing to do with that; or with the extraordinary doctrine that because a man who happens to possess a delicate constitution, is not to be bled when inflammation is present, I have no concern. But as you have *openly* declared that the bleeding

was improper and uncalled for,—nothing less than this admission will satisfy me ; and in requiring it, I am making no unreasonable demand, for although you might have seen Mr. Leycester only a few hours previous to my being called in, that is no reason whatever why there might not have been a necessity for bleeding ; nor is it for me to state *now*, why I thought such a step necessary. With regard to that part of your letter which alludes to “ professional usage and courtesy,” I must inform you that when I was summoned by Mr. Leycester’s SOLE ORDERS to visit him, the note particularly expressed that my being sent for to see him was with the understanding that “ Mr. Holland was no longer to continue his attendance.” Under such circumstances, how could I possibly propose to communicate with the person whom I understood MR. LEYCESTER HIMSELF had dismissed, purely from a want of confidence, and upon whom I had long since been aware the family in general looked as being totally inefficient and *passè*,—moreover, I must add, that with the case before me, and the account which I received from the family of the treatment which *had* been pursued, I had little reason to expect any “ useful communication ” from such a source ; in addition to which, I must confess that the idea of applying to yourself for any information, either upon this or any other case, would have been the very, very last that would ever have entered into my head.

“ I am,

“ Your obedient Servant,

“ JOHN HARRISON.”

“ Mr. Holland.”

To this letter I received no reply. Why or wherefore I know not ; but I wish it to be understood that although many of the expressions were certainly very strong, and written under the excitement of the moment, they were not made use of merely for the purpose of giving offence to Mr. Holland's feelings. He had complained of a deviation on my part from professional usage and courtesy in not consulting with him when I was called in to see Mr. Leycester, and I was anxious to show him as plainly and explicitly as I could the absurdity and folly of his making such an observation ; for knowing as I did the cause of my being called in to be Mr. Leycester's want of confidence in him, which was very plainly evinced by Mr. Leycester giving Mrs. Leycester direction, *of his own free will and accord*, to send for me ;—would it, I ask, have been consistent with common sense or propriety in me, the first thing that I did after seeing Mr. Leycester, to propose a consultation with the very person whom Mr. Leycester had just dismissed, and in whom the whole of the family had for a very considerable time ceased to repose the slightest confidence. Such a step would have been ridiculous ; and had I been so silly as to have proposed it to the family, they would, in all probability, have dispensed with my services as well ;—for put the question to yourself,—suppose that you were in the habit of being attended by a practitioner whom you retained more on account of a very long connection, than for any opinion that you might have of his

professional skill ; and suppose during any illness, that you had reason to doubt the propriety of his treatment, and had dismissed him, and directed another to be called in, what should you have thought if the person so called in had proposed the one just dismissed to be re-called for a consultation with him.

In conclusion, Sir, I wish to observe, that in putting forth this statement, I have not been actuated by any private or vindictive feeling. My principal motive for publishing it was with a view to supply a correct and faithful account of both sides of the question, and so to enable every one to form an opinion for themselves. With this intention, I have stated only what I believe to be strictly and conscientiously true. And by this statement I am willing to stand or fall. I have suppressed many circumstances connected both with Dr. and Mr. Holland which I might very fairly have brought forward, but as they did not bear *directly* upon the point in question, viz: the propriety or impropriety of the bleeding, I have left them altogether unnoticed, solely for the reason that no one might accuse me of having gratified any private feeling under the pretence of bringing them forward as essential to the statement.—I disclaim any revengeful feeling towards Mr. Holland, and had he been content with a vindication of his own treatment of Mr. Leycester merely, the publication of this pamphlet would have been perfectly unnecessary.

I beg to add that the above statement was

submitted to Mrs. Leycester's perusal previous to publication, and she has authorized me to say that so far as it refers to Mr. Leycester's illness and treatment, she has no hesitation in saying that it is perfectly correct.

I remain,

Your obliged and faithful Servant,

JOHN HARRISON,

SURGEON.

Knutsford, July 28th, 1835.

submitted to Mrs. Leicester's personal provisions so
publication, and she has authorized me to say that so
far as it refers to Mr. Leicester's illness and treat-
ment, she has no hesitation in saying that it is per-
fectly correct.

I remain,

Your obliged and faithful servant,

JOHN HARRISON,

Surgeon.

Windsor, July 28th, 1835.

