

ners will be admitted the first year. Every succeeding year will increase the number. These having been regularly trained and fitted for their momentous duties will act towards their seniors and employers with greater propriety, than we now experience from each other. They will not be led to practise the low arts of the half informed and half instructed, who are the assassins of professional respectability, and of every thing commendable in the art. If persons can at pleasure call themselves Physicians, Surgeons, Apothecaries, and Druggists, without undergoing a competent measure of study, and without possessing a diploma or indentures of apprenticeship, surely some check is wanted to stop the supply of these dangerous fellow labourers. That such things can and are daily committed, no observer will venture to deny. Arrest this torrent *for five years only*, and I dare hazard an opinion, that the face of things will in that short time be much mended. Lord Kenyon's Bill, as it is called, has not, I think, operated more than ten years, and its effects upon the legal profession are strikingly obvious. The Attornies are already become a different race of men, though many of them commenced their career as humbly as any in medicine, viz. in the two-fold capacity of apprentice and stable-boy, or house-servant. The increased respectability of the young attorney is communicated to the senior members, and general professional character is daily improving, equally to the benefit of the Law and the Clients. Such would, I doubt not, be the pleasing result by securing a better education and preliminary examinations as provided in the bill. Let these improvements be suffered to operate till circumstances will admit of an additional bill. This again may be followed by others. Thus, by zealous co-operation and vigorous exertions, a full and complete reformation may at length be obtained. Such is the prudent, and as it appears to me, the only safe way of proceeding, in a complicated undertaking where so many interests require to be reconciled, and in an *assembly too, where we have no professional brother to defend our cause.*

H. R.

To the Editors of the Medical and Physical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

HAVING favoured my former communications with a place in your useful Journal, I have only to request your insertion of the following.

Feeling

Feeling extremely obliged to SENEX for his information on Scarlatina, as well as his candid remarks on my paper, I should be wanting in gratitude did I not immediately comply with his request.

“ It would greatly assist us in estimating the value of Mr. Hamilton’s paper on Scarlatina, to be informed whether he has met with any fatal instances from the immediate effects of the disease; or whether the cases he has given us should be regarded as comprising a summary of his whole experience on that head, and as warranting a conclusion, that his practice has been attended with universal success?”

To this I answer, that during the prevalence of the disease here (about a year and half) no fatal instance occurred under my immediate care, in which the practice alluded to was early and rigidly pursued. While I announce this success, I ingenuously confess that in two or three instances the disease terminated fatally, in all of which, being either prevented by prejudice, or called too late, the above treatment was not adopted.

No fatal instance even of the remote consequences, enumerated by your correspondent SENEX, occurred to me, where the antiphlogistic regimen had been strictly followed.

I am also much obliged to T. F. R. for his observation on the same subject, and request he will give venesection a fair trial the first opportunity, when I have little doubt of his complete conviction of its success.

I speak thus warmly in favour of phlebotomy, having met with no instance in which its effects seemed the least injurious, but on the contrary, highly beneficial even at an advanced period of the disease.

I remain, Gentlemen,

With great respect,

Your’s, &c.

W. HAMILTON.

Ipswich, April 2, 1811.

For the Medical and Physical Journal.

Account of the Hospitals at Berne, in Switzerland.

(Du Journal Général de Médecine, &c.)

THERE are in Berne two hospitals, one of which is appropriated to the sick, and the other to the infirm and aged. These are handsome buildings, finely situated, and appear to be well conducted.

The hospital for diseases has been built about forty years, and is formed on the plan of those in England. It contains several