

subject; and no answer can he get, although I know for certain that his petition was laid before the examiners, and leave was decided on by them to be given to the gentleman to register. On one occasion he asked Mr. Watson what he had better do. Mr. W. said, "I know nothing about the case. I am no more than a post-office to the Hall. You have your answer and there's the door." He then applied at the Hall, but was again referred to Mr. Watson, upon whom he called, in my presence, for the tenth time; but on giving his name and stating his business, Mr. W. said that no such petition as his had ever been sent, and when I told him that I saw the petition in his (Mr. W.'s) own hands, a few mornings previous, he declared that my statement was false; and when I told him that we had been under the necessity of calling eight or ten times within three weeks, he said it was all "a lie," and that he had never seen either of our faces before. And this is all that my friend can learn of his petition. Is this the language which ought to be used by the Secretary of the Apothecaries' Company, to students praying for information? Of his ungentlemanlike conduct I will say nothing, as it is only what students must expect in that neighbourhood. But he should remember that although he is Secretary to a Company who derive a great income by the contributions of students, he may live to see the abolition of that Company, as the result of the combination of those students with the thousands of practitioners who are already rendering their powerful influence to place medical education under the superintendence of a very different body of men. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A MEDICAL PUPIL.

December 5th, 1835.

* * * The name and address of the writer of this letter have been placed in our haads.

TERM OF APOTHECARY-APPRENTICESHIPS.

To the Editor.—SIR,—I cannot forbear noticing the very extraordinary conduct of the Examiners of the Apothecaries' Company, in making so many alterations in the regulations for apprentices. When I was bound apprentice, about eighteen years ago, I was distinctly told that it was necessary I should serve the whole seven years, prior to my attendance at the London hospitals. Two years after the expiration of that time, being established in practice, I took an apprentice, and was then told that the Court thought the seven years too long, and that they would be content with five years' *actual servitude*; it now appears that they consider three years sufficient, which is surely unjust to those who have been compelled to serve the whole time; and though I certainly think the period of seven years, which I

served, much too long, yet, as it was the customary time allotted to all, I had no reason to complain, and reflected that I should in my turn derive benefit from the assistance which my apprentices would afford me during the latter part of their stay. According to the present regulations, medical men are expected to dispense with the services of their apprentices just at the time they are beginning to be most useful to them, and the pupils are compelled to attend a tedious routine of studies, subject to such complicated regulations as are exceedingly annoying and harassing to them, and reflect the utmost disgrace and discredit upon the Court of Examiners. Trusting you will allow insertion to these remarks, I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A LICENTIATE OF THE
APOTHECARIES' COMPANY.

TREATMENT OF FRACTURES.

To the Editor.—SIR,—The scientific observations of Mr. Radley on the treatment of fractures in late numbers of your invaluable publication, bring to my recollection the practice I witnessed when assistant to Mr. Clapham of Thorney, who has now been in the habit, for upwards of thirty years, of invariably treating fractures on the same principles as Mr. Radley. His sons, I understand, pursue the same plan. It is to be regretted that men of such long standing in the profession, and who have enjoyed such opportunities of gaining professional knowledge, do not communicate to the public some of the many valuable cases which must necessarily have thus come under their observation.—I remain your ardent admirer,

M. D. W.

Borough, Dec. 4, 1835.

MEDICAL MAGNETISM.—*To the Editor.*—SIR,—In the report of a meeting of the Westminster Medical Society, published in your valuable miscellany of the 5th instant, it appears that Dr. Epps thought proper to state "that a gentleman had offered to Messrs. Watkins and Hill of Charing-cross, 100 guineas, if they would produce magnets having the like power (referring to those prepared by Dr. Schmidt). They tried, but at last were compelled to acknowledge their incompetency." Now, Sir, we trust you will afford us space to give the most decided contradiction to that statement. Why our names should be thus thrust forwards to advance the views of Dr. Schmidt, we know not; but this we do know, that neither with the Doctor, nor with his magnets, are we in any degree acquainted, nor have we ever made any attempts to compete with him. Hence it is clear that Dr. Epps must have been labouring under some strange delusion