

sity of the close attendance of the medical officer upon the case, and the Commissioners are advised that the question of the preference of the long straight splint, (Liston's system,) or the double inclined plane in the treatment of a fractured thigh, has been differently viewed by different surgeons, and that probably at the present time the majority of surgeons are in favour of the long straight splint, and therefore that the adoption of it in the case in question was not incorrect practice.

"The Commissioners are further advised, that because the case proceeded unfavourably, it is not to be inferred that the straight splint was unsuited to it, and that the unfavourable progress may have been the consequence of the bandages not being properly adjusted. If, however, with the straight splint, and a proper adjustment of the bandages, the case did not proceed favourably, the straight splint ought then to have been changed for the double inclined plane.

"With respect to the frequency of the attendances of the medical officer on the case, the Commissioners are advised, that a fracture of a thigh requires during the first fortnight the daily attendance of the surgeon, as the bandages are almost sure to want some daily re-adjustment for the maintenance of the limb in its proper position, and that, accordingly, the intervals between the Tuesday and Thursday, and Thursday and Sunday, in Mr. Deshon's attendance, ought not to have occurred.

"The Commissioners request that Mr. Deshon may be admonished to be more attentive in cases of this description in future.

"I am, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) "E. CHADWICK,
Secretary."

"S. W. Long, Esq.,
Clerk to the Guardians, Sturminster Union."

SIR JAMES GRAHAM'S MEDICAL BILL. NORTHERN COUNTIES MEETING.

At a general meeting of the Medical Profession in the Northern Counties, convened by the Council of the North of England Association, to consider the proposed Medical Bill of Sir James Graham, and held in the Lecture Room of the Literary and Philosophical Society, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on Wednesday, the 23d of October, 1844, Dr. Headlam in the Chair, Dr. Charlton, the Secretary, read the following Report:—

"The Council of the North of England Association having attentively considered the Bill of Sir James Graham, beg to present the following Report of those provisions which seem to them objectionable, and also of such portions of the bill as appear worthy of the strenuous support of the profession. The provisions of which the Council approve are the following:—

"1. The establishment of a General Council of Health and Medical Education, which places the whole profession under the superintendance of one presiding body, which shall control the Universities and Colleges, and which if judiciously constituted and worked, would in every way benefit the public and the medical profession.

"2. The connection established for the first time

between the Government of this country and the medical profession, by means of the above executive of health and medical education.

"3. The complete education that by the bill is provided for the general practitioner, and the uniformity of qualification to practice which it confers upon all duly educated medical men, by abolishing all local restrictions, and yielding reciprocity of privilege throughout the kingdom.

"4. The fixing a more suitable age for the admission of physicians and surgeons to practice.

"5. The prohibiting of all foreign degrees attainable by purchase.

"6. The releasing of the profession from its connection with a trading company.

"7. The general registration of all duly-qualified practitioners.

"8. The giving to none but registered practitioners the right to recover charges for attendance.

"9. The provisions against the assumption of medical titles by unregistered practitioners.

"The portions of the bill which the Council consider as defective, are the following:—

"1. The mode of formation of the Executive Council; which, as proposed, does not recognize the representative principle in the election of its members, and allows an undue preponderance in favour of the Government.

"2. The registration of all qualified practitioners not being made compulsory.

"3. The total absence of all protection against quackery and illegal practitioners, even to the removal of the present existing restriction, and which, in the opinion of the Council, constitutes one of the grand points in which this measure is defective.

"4. The omission of any summary and inexpensive mode of enforcing penalties against those persons assuming medical titles, or falsely pretending to be upon the register."

The following resolutions were unanimously carried:

Moved by Dr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Brumell:—"That this meeting views with pleasure the attention bestowed by Government upon the subject of Medical Reform, and that it regards with peculiar satisfaction the circumstance that the present Medical Bill has been introduced into Parliament by one of her Majesty's Ministers."

Moved by Sir John Fife, and seconded by Dr. Knott:—"That this meeting, having duly considered the details of the bill, does approve of many of the principles therein contained, and regards certain of the provisions of the said bill as worthy of the strenuous support of the profession; but it is further of opinion, that, if allowed to pass into a law without important modifications, it would on the whole be more injurious than profitable to the cause of medical legislation."

Moved by Mr. Greenhow, and seconded by Mr. Dixon:—"That this meeting cordially approves of the formation of the Council of Health and Medical Education; but that it most earnestly deprecates the proposed method of forming the said Executive Council, whereby two-thirds of the members would be nominated by the Government, and the representation of the interests of the Profession, especially in the provinces, would be entirely neglected."

Moved by Dr. G. Fife, and seconded by Dr. De

Mey:—"That this meeting is deeply convinced of the necessity of protecting the qualified from the unqualified practitioner; and that it therefore views with regret and disapprobation the proposal of Sir James Graham to remove all existing restrictions, without substituting any more efficient protection in their stead; and that this meeting does consider any measure as incomplete and unsatisfactory, which does not fully guarantee the interests of the well-educated and licensed practitioner, by restraining the inroads of illegal pretenders."

Moved by Dr. Embleton, and seconded by Mr. Gregory:—"That this meeting strongly urges the necessity of making representations to the various Members of Parliament in this neighbourhood; and that for this purpose a deputation be appointed to wait upon Mr. Ord and Mr. Hodgson Hinde, the Members for this town, as also upon the Members for the counties of Northumberland and Durham; and that this deputation consist of Dr. Headlam, Dr. Brown, Sir John Fife, Mr. Greenhow, Dr. Fife, and the Secretary."

Moved by Dr. Elliot, and seconded by Mr. Jephson:—"That a Petition be drawn up against the defective portions of the bill, and be presented to the House of Commons by the Members for the town; and that the Petition be signed by the members of the profession generally."

Moved by Mr. Greenhow, and seconded by Dr. De Mey:—"That the thanks of this meeting be given to C. T. Carter, Esq., of Hadley, near London, the late Secretary of the North of England Medical Association, for his able and judicious letter on the Medical Bill, addressed to Dr. Charlton, the present Secretary, and printed and circulated by order of the Council."

Moved by Mr. Bennett, and seconded by Mr. Eddowes:—"That the account of the proceedings of this meeting be sent to the *Lancet*, the *Medical Gazette*, the *Provincial Medical Journal*, and the *Gateshead Observer*."

T. E. HEADLAM, M.D., Chairman.

That the thanks of the meeting be given to the President of the Medical Association for his services in the chair."

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH MEETING.

At a meeting of the Bath and Bristol Branch of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, held at Bristol, on Thursday October 17th, to take into consideration Sir James Graham's Medical Bill. Mr. George, of Bath, in the chair:—

Moved by Mr. Godfrey, Bath, and seconded by Dr. Symonds, Bristol:—"That this meeting being deeply sensible of the necessity for fresh legislation to reconcile the discrepancies and to remove the various anomalies affecting both Medical Education and the privileges of Medical Practitioners in this country, rejoices that her Majesty's Government have laid before the House of Commons a bill, having this object in view; and is thankful to Sir James Graham for the ample time afforded for its consideration during the Parliamentary recess."

It was moved by Mr. Norman, Bath, and seconded by Dr. Riley, Bristol:—"That while approving of those parts of the bill which tend to give the profession consistency as a body, and to increase its influence by establishing its connexion with the State, this meeting

feels itself bound to express its strong disapprobation of certain clauses of the same."

Moved by Mr. Soden, Bath, and seconded by Dr. Budd, Bristol:—"That while this meeting freely admits that the hope of entirely suppressing quackery by legislative enactment is quite visionary, it nevertheless desires to express in the strongest possible terms, its disapproval of the removal of all restraint from unqualified practitioners as being at once unjust to the legally qualified practitioner, and pregnant with injury to the public."

Moved by Dr. Toogood, Bridgwater, and seconded by Mr. Staples, Bristol:—"That to require from the registered practitioner a certain standard of qualification, without at the same time giving him a protection against the competition of impostors, appears to this meeting a legal inconsistency; and it therefore urges the necessity of some penal enactment, whereby practising the healing art without legal qualification, with a view to gain, shall be made an offence punishable by summary process."

Moved by Dr. Dillon, Bath, and seconded by Mr. Colthurst, Bristol:—"That this meeting regards with peculiar satisfaction the institution of a Council of Health and Medical Education, but is of opinion that the choice of six members of the body by the Queen in Council, gives an undue preponderance to the State over the present collegiate bodies in the government of the profession."

Moved by Dr. Daniell, Bath, and seconded by Mr. Estlin, Bristol:—"That this meeting considers that a good system of registration would be of inestimable value to the profession, but is of opinion that to be effectual, it should be made not optional but compulsory, and that the registry lists should be published annually."

Moved by Dr. Dillon, Bath, and seconded by Dr. Riley, Bristol:—"That the thanks of this meeting are due, and are hereby given, to the Right Hon. Sir James Graham, Bart., M.P., for submitting to the House of Commons the project of laws for reforming the medical profession; and that copies of the resolutions passed here this day be transmitted to the Right Hon. Gentleman."

Among the gentlemen present were—Dr. Tunstall, Dr. Dillon, Mr. Norman, Mr. Soden, Mr. John Soden, Dr. Daniell, Mr. Ormond, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Godfrey, Mr. King, Dr. Cardew, Mr. Hensly, and Mr. Barrett, of Bath; Dr. Trotman, Mr. Ruddock, Dr. Bompas, Mr. Bompas, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Mortimer, Dr. Symonds, Mr. Colthurst, Mr. Smerdon, Mr. Green, Mr. Wilson, Dr. Fairbrother, Dr. Budd, Mr. Godfrey, Mr. W. James, Mr. Staples, Dr. Riley, Mr. Burroughs, Mr. Swayne, Mr. Estlin, Mr. Goodeve, and Mr. Hetling, of Bristol; Mr. Allen, St. George's; Mr. Hutchings, Keynsham; Dr. Toogood, Bridgwater; Mr. Chadwick, Wrington; Mr. Fenster, Thornbury; Mr. Vicary, Warminster; and Mr. Alford, Taunton.

CHESTER MEETING.

At a meeting of the Medical Profession of Chester and the surrounding districts, convened for the purpose of taking into consideration the provisions of a bill introduced into Parliament by Sir James Graham, "for regulating Medical Practice throughout the