

satisfaction at the result. When we thought the conduct of Dr. GREGORY censurable, we censured it, but purely upon public grounds; and now we see him acting a most praiseworthy part, we as freely accord him our praise. There is always true courage in a frank apology, where any intentional or unintentional wrong has been done; but the longer circumstances defer an apology, the more courage is there required for its full expression. That Dr. GREGORY has acted the manly and courageous part will surely not lower but raise him in the opinion of his professional brethren, whether as a physician or a gentleman. We congratulate Dr. GREGORY quite as much as Mr. WIGAN. Medical etiquette, though made up of slight forms, is a serious matter; and in proportion as we observe a strict etiquette between ourselves, so shall we be treated with respect and deference by the public. In conclusion, we would remark, that scarcely anything within our remembrance has occurred so likely to improve the internal discipline of the profession as these recent proceedings: we trust they will attract the attention of the public medical bodies, who ought to give themselves to the adjustment of such matters, and not suffer the onerousness of them to fall upon private individuals.

COURT-MEDICAL.

NOTE FROM DR. WEBSTER AND DR. W. TYLER SMITH.
To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—The following letter from Dr. Gregory arose out of a correspondence which took place between Dr. Gregory and Dr. Webster subsequently to the report prepared by us of the proceedings in the late Court-Medical. We need scarcely say, that it gives us far greater pleasure to be able to send this, than it did to furnish the report which our duty compelled us to forward for publication. It will be seen that Mr. Wigan has addressed Dr. Gregory in an amicable spirit. He has also addressed a note of apology to Mr. Craddock for the unintentional interruption to his dinner-party on September 7th, 1846, by himself and Mr. Charles C. Eyre. We are glad that the difference between Dr. Gregory and Mr. Wigan has thus reached a conclusion so satisfactory to all the parties concerned.—Sir, your obedient servants,

GEORGE WEBSTER.
W. TYLER SMITH.

NOTE FROM DR. GREGORY TO DR. GEORGE WEBSTER, DULWICH.
31, Weymouth-street, Jan. 30th, 1847.

MY DEAR DR. WEBSTER,—I request that you will communicate to Mr. Wigan my regret that I did not send for him on the occasion of being called to his patient on the 7th Sept., 1846. I feel quite sure that he will himself acquit me of any design to injure his professional reputation.

I hope that you and Dr. Tyler Smith will pardon me for having, in a moment of irritation, attempted to defend myself by the disparagement of your professional qualifications.

I regret very sincerely that my feelings throughout this affair should have been so excited as to lead me to do that which was hasty, and to say that which was intemperate. I trust that you and my professional brethren may find some partial excuse for these errors in an over-anxiety to uphold my professional honour, which appeared (perhaps unintentionally) to have been called in question.—I am, dear Sir, yours very faithfully,

G. GREGORY.

NOTE FROM MR. WIGAN TO DR. GEORGE GREGORY.

DEAR SIR,—I have received a communication from Dr. Webster and Dr. W. Tyler Smith, conveying a candid expression of your regret that you did not send for me when called in to see my patient, Mrs. F—. You had already declared that in what took place you had no intention of injuring me in the opinion of my patient. I am happy to accept this admission and explanation, and I have much pleasure in withdrawing any remarks that may have been personally offensive to you in my first letter to the Editor of THE LANCET.—I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

42, Somerset-street, Portman-square,
Feb. 3rd, 1847.

GEORGE WIGAN.

Operations Without Pain.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL.

THERE were three operations at this institution on Thursday, Jan. 28th, and the vapour of ether was administered in each case by Dr. Snow, with very satisfactory results, by means of the inhaler described and depicted in our last number. The first patient was a little boy, on whom Mr. Caesar Hawkins performed the operation of removing a long sequestrum of dead bone from the interior of the tibia. The boy inhaled, without objection or difficulty, and in about a minute and a half the operation was commenced, without causing the least appearance of suffering. The process of inhaling was continued for about a minute after the operation commenced, and was left off just as his face was becoming rather purple, and the pulse feeble. After a short time, he began to look about him, and to show signs of returning consciousness, and the mouth-piece was applied again for a short time,—altogether he inhaled four minutes. He awoke as out of a sleep just as the operation was concluded, and was taken away without having shed a tear. Mr. Hawkins, in his remarks on the case, said that the operation was one which was usually extremely painful, and the inflamed bone in this case was so tender, that the boy would not allow it to be touched with the probe.

The next operation was an amputation of the thigh, and was performed by Mr. Cutler. The patient was carried into the theatre on his bed, and was very feeble. A quantity of pus was flowing from the knee-joint. He seemed to dislike the vapour, and tried to get his hands up to liberate his mouth and nostrils; but this was only for a short time. In about two minutes he seemed quite insensible, and was then drawn down towards the foot of his bed, and the operation commenced without his giving the least token of feeling it. The ether was left off, and given again for a short time, as in the first case. He recovered his consciousness, so as to answer questions whilst the arteries were being tied; but he did not feel what was being done to his limb, and he stated that he had not felt the operation. Mr. Cutler said that the man had had two attacks of erysipelas since he was brought to the hospital with an accident to the thigh, and was so much reduced, that he (Mr. Cutler) was afraid, that if put to sleep by the ether, he might never awake again; but he consulted his colleagues on the subject, and it was decided he was to have a trial of it, and the result had been most satisfactory.

The third patient was a negro, in good general health, with a large fatty tumour over the right scapula, which was removed by Mr. Tatum. The duration of the inhaling and its results were nearly the same as in the previous operations. He struggled a little, and his veins were rather turgid just as he was becoming insensible, before the operation began. He felt nothing of it, and his surprise and pleasure when he was with some difficulty convinced that his tumour was removed, were evinced in a way that excited some laughter in the spectators. Dr. Snow stated that the temperature of the water in which the inhaler was placed was 65° in the first operation, 70° in the second, and 75° in the third; and that, consequently, the proportion of vapour in the air inspired was 44, 50, and 55 per cent. respectively.

CHELTENHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL.

By W. PHILPOT BROOKES, MD., M.R.C.S.E., Surgeon to the Cheltenham General Hospital and Dispensary, &c. &c.

HAVING occasion to perform the operation of extirpation of the left breast for a scirrhus tumour, but in which the glands of the axilla had not become diseased, I gladly availed myself of this the first opportunity I have had of trying the effect of the inhalation of ether; and its being the first time it has been used in this town for any capital surgical operation, (although Mr. Tibbs, the dentist, had succeeded with it for the extraction of stumps of teeth,) I invited the following members of the profession to be present:—Dr. Smith, Mr. Eves, one of the surgeons to the hospital here, Mr. Dalton, Mr. Orrell, Mr. Fagan, Mr. Tibbs, surgeon-dentist, and Mr. Sugors and Mr. Peart.

The great importance of this invention as regards operative surgery renders it necessary that surgeons should make known all the cases that come under their observation, and on that account I have given the full notes of this one.

The inhalation of the sulphuric ether was kindly managed