

several odd numbers were put into my hands ; and among them No. 33, in which I find that a writer, under the signature of PHINEAS, has taken up the gauntlet in defence of the hospital gentlemen ; and also, it would appear, in a preceding number, which I can not procure. Had I known this earlier, the communication which I took the liberty of addressing to you a few days ago, should have been sent you under another form. However, as it is, I hope you will have the goodness to publish it, as well as the present letter, and thus confer a new obligation on one who admires the impartiality, and independence with which you conduct your weekly papers.

I am, sir, Your's &c.

AMICUS.

To PHINEAS,

" Je n'arme contre lui que le fruit de son crime.

CREBILLON.

It was unwise in you, Phineas, to attempt the justification of the medical boards of the province ; and you must pardon me if I say, I perceive, through the whole of your lucubrations, a disposition manifested, such as it was my wish to deprecate and expose. You have, very thoughtlessly, divulged the tenor of your intentions, (for I identify you with the hospital, though, with more prudence than, I believe, truth, you would disclaim all acquaintance with those gentlemen,) when you said, that if a person was qualified to *answer* the interrogatories put to him on his examination, it was of no consequence how short the period of his studies had been, (that is, if he got his lesson off by rote, parrot-like, it was enough,) and that he *must* be admitted to the practice of the profession. Now, sir, this tallies exactly with what I have predicted would take place, in a communication which I sent to the Free Press a few days ago, without any knowledge of this rejoinder of yours : namely, that friends and favourites would pass your board, though they had not studied for any number of years, nay, scarcely months ; much less five years, which is the period required by law ; and not less than which, I maintain, will suffice, even under your good and able care, to initiate any person thoroughly in the various branches of the profession. You wrong truth, sir, and you wrong me, in saying I "slander" you and your coadjutors.* If to expose your faults and to adhere to facts is slander, then indeed,

* I think a *Friend to truth*, is too positive in identifying PHINEAS with the members of the medical board : in fact, I have reason to believe, both from intrinsic and other evidence, that he does not belong to them, but is a volunteer in their behalf.

L. L. M.