

EXTRACT FROM THE LONDON TIMES.

5th February, 1827.

*The late Mr. Ellerby, and dissection of dead bodies.*

To the Editor of the Times.

SIR,—I enclose you an extract from the will of the late Mr. Ellerby, surgeon, of New Broad-street. You will see that it is dictated with a warm spirit of devotion towards the science he professed, and there can be no doubt but its publication will have a tendency to diminish the prejudices existing in the public mind against *post mortem* examinations.

I remain, Sir, your obedient.

“ For the guidance and instruction of those whom I may appoint as the executors of this my last will, I do here set down what my wish is concerning the disposal of my body. After my decease, I request to be placed in a very plain shell or coffin, with all possible dispatch ; that my friends and acquaintances be assembled as soon as convenient, and preferring to be of some use after my death, I do will, wish, beg, pray, and desire, that at the conclusion of such meetings of my friends and acquaintances, and at which I particularly wish those medical friends who have so kindly attended me through my long illness to be present, to be held at the house at which I may have breathed my last. That the shell or coffin in which I may be laid, be placed in a plain hearse, with directions for it to be taken to Mr. Kiernan’s or some dissecting-room of an approved anatomical school, followed simply by the medical men in one or two plain coaches, and that they do there examine it to their full satisfaction, taking away such parts as may be of pathological utility ; after which that the remains be dissected, or made whatever use of the anatomical teacher of such school may think proper.