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## CORRESPONDENCE.

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### LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.—No. 4.

London, 3d Nov., 1854.

On the 2d of October the winter session of the various medical schools in the metropolis was ushered in by the delivery of introductory lectures. I had the pleasure of hearing that delivered at *University College*, by Professor Carpenter, and although prepared to hear something more than is given in an ordinary introductory lecture from one whom I claim to be a disciple of, I must confess I was not in the least disappointed. His lecture was clear and forcible in its language, strictly logical in its conclusions, scientific and learned in its general bearings, and marked the philosopher, the man of science and the scholar. His subject was *the relation between cause and effect*, and though perhaps too learned for junior students, the majority of his 300 hearers were persons quite capable of appreciating and understanding his discourse. His delivery is weak, and might be good if health and strength permitted; but to be a good lecturer, would require a greater sacrifice of scientific research than he would be willing to submit to. I found my way to the *Middlesex Hospital* in the evening, and listened to an excellent but short address from Mr. Shaw, one of the surgeons, previous to the distribution of a large number of very valuable prizes to young men who had distinguished themselves. This pleasant scene was terminated by a conversation associated with the dispensation of some of the creature comforts in the shape of tea and coffee, cakes, &c. This day is generally taken as a holiday by the majority of the profession in London, who help to swell the numbers at the various medical schools, and with the pupils, present quite an imposing and cheering appearance before the lecturers.

Coeval with these lectures are the meetings of the numerous societies. The oldest, the London Medical, held its first meeting on Saturday 14th