

benefit if the candidate should be wanting in some of the minor requirements. There is likewise an examination in Latin and Natural Philosophy, which is required from all with very few exceptions. I did not find the examination in Latin very difficult, but it is as well to look over a little of Cicero "De Natura Deorum," Second Book, or his oration "De Senectute." As you are likewise to get a quotation from some of them, you get likewise two other pieces from some of the classical or those medical authors who wrote in Latin. If you do one piece satisfactorily it is sufficient. The other portion of the examination is very elementary. The days for the final examination are the first and third Tuesdays of every month. I may state, *en passant*, that the candidate for the diploma does not require to attend any lectures in Edinburgh, if he have the before-mentioned qualification. I hope I have not been too prolix in the preceding remarks. I think I have given most of the requirements.

#### NOW FOR SURGERY.

Mr. Syme has recently attempted to astonish the world by a new operation, but unluckily it turned out a failure. The operation was the removal of the tongue by dividing the symphysis menti, and then making room for the removal of the tongue by pushing aside the divided ends of the bone. The operation was beautifully performed, and the patient did well for three or four days, but he gradually became very depressed and died. Post mortem revealed collections of pus in the joints, liver, and lungs. The Professor said in his Clinical Lecture that had he a fitting subject he would again perform the same operation, as he thinks it was not a fair trial, and that pyæmia may result from almost any operation. Mr. Syme never performs resection of the knee joint; and I have seen many amputations of the thigh for scrofulous disease of that joint, which I am certain would have been resected had they been in London under Mr. Ferguson. I think that this latter operation is not performed here as often as it should be, and that many patients might have had a useful though stiff limb who now go about on crutches.

The operation as performed by Mr. Ferguson I think fulfils every indication. It can not only be easily and speedily executed with little loss of blood (sometimes not more than one or two table-spoonfuls), but also with a happy result as regards the patient. I have seen cases brought into the operating theatre, in which the patient was able to walk about with very little inconvenience; and others, six weeks after having the joint removed, were able to get out of bed and go round the wards, and, in the place of their cachectic, death-like appearance, had grown healthy and fat, even before the limb was yet perfectly cured.

Another operation almost peculiar to Mr. Syme is the removal of the