

upon a silver plate at the bottom. "Presented to Robert Liston by Dr. John Barclay." Those of the present generation may not be aware that the latter gentleman was distinguished in his time as a celebrated anatomist, and was the author of a work on the human arteries published at Edinburgh in 1812, a copy of which I have in my own library. As I understood from the conversation, and the remarks of Dr. George Webster of Dulwich then present, and who knew both persons well, Liston must have been a pupil of Barclay's at one time.

Whenever I see the case in the museum of the College of Surgeons filled with all sorts of curious *old* surgical instruments and appliances, I am reminded of a number of old lithotomy and other instruments which were preserved in the Montreal General Hospital. If they still exist they should be gathered together and placed in a glass case to form a nucleus for a collection of those things in the museum of McGill College.

At one of the hospitals (Middlesex) during the winter I have occasionally observed a young lady of good features and deportment; regularly present at the operations on females. She is, I understand, one of a number of the other sex, who is most anxious to learn the mysteries of medicine, but the Hospital authorities allow of their picking up but a moderate quantity of knowledge, for the young ladies do not attend *all* the classes indiscriminately.

The Volunteer movement in England has absorbed a large number of medical men among the recruits, who mix with their brethren in making themselves proficient to deal "blood, death and slaughter" amongst their country's enemies. The other day, I stopped in the street to see a fine looking battalion pass, and to my amazement among the pioneers, was a physician who is attached to one of our largest hospitals, a Fellow of the London College, and moreover an F.R.S. The mere mention of this will show the feeling existing amongst all ranks of the people. The expression used above of "blood, death, and slaughter," is at present in the mouths of a good many persons, who say that it is reigning in the profession. The origin of it, is an examination of the new Medical Register which actually records persons of those names. There is a Mr. Blood of Jersey, a Dr. Slaughter of Farningham in Kent, and a Mr. Death (what a name for a surgeon) of Buckingham. All are worthy and respectable men, who are remarkable only for their names.

In the account of the life and writings of the late Dr. Holmes, given in your November number, I see no notice of a communication in the *Edin. Med. Jour.* by him, of a remarkable malformation of the Heart, which is preserved in the museum of McGill College. The specimen is probably unique and was taken from a school-fellow of Dr. Holmes. As near as I can remember the heart possesses but a single cavity. It is so remarkable and interesting that it is well worth republishing in your Journal.

I observe by the Journals (*Brit. Med. Jour.*, 30th March, p. 347) that at a recent meeting of the New York Path. Soc., a heart was exhibited that weighed 4 lbs. 6 oz., probably the heaviest on record. I remember well a heart in the possession of my former colleague Dr. David of your city which weighed 46 ounces, a drawing of which he had made. If he will send me the drawing