

Evidence to the Parliamentary Select Committee Poor Law enquiry on the Operation of the Poor Law Amendment Act .

Day 15, 19 July 1838

Evidence of John Rodney Ward, p 1085; Rev Benjamin Pope, p 1106

Edited by Tony Woolrich, 25/04/2021

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1085

Die Veneris, 20^o Julii 1838.

The Lord WHARNCLIFFE in the Chair.

Evidence on the Operation of the Poor Law Amendment Act.

Mr. JOHN RODNEY WARD is called in, and examined as follows:

YOU are a Surgeon?

I am.

Now residing at Bridgwater?

I am.

You are in charge of the Bridgwater District of the Poor Union and the Workhouse?

I am.

Where were you educated as a Surgeon?

I was Three Years educated at Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals.

Did you get Certificates from either or both of those Hospitals?

I have all the necessary Certificates from both.

Have the goodness to produce your Certificates from Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals?

I shall be happy to do so.

Have you got here the Certificates you produced to the Board at Bridgwater?

I have.

How many Years ago is it since you were in Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals?

In 1824 to 1827.

What Age were you at that Time?

I must have been about Twenty or Twenty - one.

Your Age now is Thirty - four?

Yes, about that.

The Witness produces his Certificates and Diploma.

The following is read:

Theatre, Guy's Hospital.

This certifies that Mr. John Rodney Ward has attended Two Courses of Lectures on the Principles, Practice, and Operations of Surgery, delivered at this School from the 1st of October 1825 to the 1st of June 1827.

London, 12th May 1827.

C. Aston Key.
John Morgan.

What do Two Courses mean?

Six Months each, or Nine Months each.

Two Courses in a Year?

Yes; sometimes more.

The following Certificates are read:

Medical School, Guy's Hospital.

This certifies that Mr. John Rodney Ward has attended Two Courses of Experimental Lectures on the Theory and Practice of Chemistry, by which he has had an Opportunity of acquiring a competent Knowledge of that Science.

Witness our Hands,

Wm. Allen, F.R.S. & L.S.

A. Aiken, F.L.S., & c.

J. Bostock, M.D., F.R.S

London, the 20th Day of July 1826.

1086 Medical School, Guy's Hospital.

This certifies that Mr. John Rodney Ward has attended Two Courses of Lectures on Materia Medica and Therapeutics, by which he has had an Opportunity of acquiring a competent Knowledge of those Subjects.

London, 28th July 1826.

Thomas Addison.

What is he?

Physician, and Lecturer.

Is the Mr. Aiken who has signed your Certificate of the Society of Arts?

Yes.

The following Certificates are read:

Medical School, Guy's Hospital.

It is hereby certified that Mr. John Rodney Ward has attended Two Courses of Lectures on the Theory and Practice of Medicine, by which he hath had an Opportunity of being made acquainted with the Principles of this Science.

Guy's London, 30th Aug. 1826

Henry James

Richard Bright ,

Physicians Senior to Guy's London

Medical School, Guy's Hospital.

This certifies that Mr. John Rodney Ward has been a Pupil to the Physicians Practice of this Hospital for Sixteen Months, during which Time he has had every Opportunity of acquiring a Knowledge of Diseases, and the proper Methods of treating them.

Henry James Cholmeley,

William Buck,

Richard Bright

James Browell, Steward.

London, 28th March 1826

Guy's Hospital, Medical School.

This is to certify that Mr. John Rodney Ward has attended Two Courses of my Lectures on the Principles and Practice of Midwifery; and further, that he has

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attended and delivered under my Superintendence in several Cases of real Labour. London, 7th December 1825.

James Blundell, M. D.

Duplicate, Guy's Hospital.

These are to certify that Mr. John Rodney Ward hath attended the Practice of Surgery as a Pupil in this and St. Thomas's Hospital for Twelve Months last past. Witness our Hands this 19th Day of September in the Year of our Lord 1826 ,

Astley Cooper, C. S.,
C. Aston Key ,
John Morgan ,
Bransby Blake Cooper,
T. Calloway,.

James Browell, Steward.

These are also to certify that the abovesaid Mr. John Rodney Ward hath diligently attended Three of my Courses of Anatomy and Operations. Witness my Hand this 20th Day of January 1827.

Bransby Blake Cooper.

Mr. John Rodney Ward hath likewise with great Care and Diligence attended to Dissections, and the making of Preparations as a Dissecting Pupil during Three Courses. Witness my Hand this 20th Day of January 1827. ,

Bransby Blake Cooper.

Were those the only Certificates you presented to the Bridgwater Guardians?

Yes; with the Exception of the Testimonials of Honour, of having held Appointments.

In consequence of those Certificates, did you obtain a Licence to practise?

I did, which I beg to put in.

The same is read as follows:

We, the Court of Examiners, chosen and appointed by the Master, Wardens, and Assistants of the Society of the Art and Mystery of Apothecaries of the City of London, in pursuance of a certain Act of Parliament, passed in the 55th Year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Third, intituled "*An Act for better regulating the Practice of Apothecaries throughout England and Wales,*" and of a certain other Act passed in the Sixth Year of the 1087 of His Majesty King George the Fourth, to amend the said Act do hereby, by virtue of the Power and Authority in us vested by the said Acts, certify that Mr. John Rodney Ward has been by us carefully and deliberately examined as to his Skill and Abilities in the Science and Practice of Medicine; and as to his Fitness and Qualification to practise as an Apothecary; and we do hereby, for and on behalf of the Master, Wardens, and Society, further certify that the said Mr. John Rodney Ward

is duly qualified to practise as an Apothecary. ,

Dated this 19th Day of April 1827, Apothecaries Hall, London.

Arthur Tegart, Chairman,
George Johnson
W. Malim,
Jas. P. Fallowfield,
James Seaton,
Allen Williams,
H. Robinson,
E. Brande,
John Bacot,
John Ridout,
H. C. Field,
T. L. Wheler,

EXAMINERS

John Watson Santkey.

You have passed the Apothecaries Company?

Yes, and am duly licensed; this is that Licence.

Have you passed the College of Surgeons?

No; and do not intend it. I have no Protection from the College more than I have now. I intend to matriculate in the London University as soon as the Law is established ,

How do you mean as soon as the Law is established?

The College of Surgeons is not a legally - constituted College. I am not more legally qualified by passing it, and will not pass it; there being no Act of Parliament to compel me.

A Person may practise without passing it?

Yes.

Are there not others who think differently?

It is a great Blessing that we all differ in Opinion. I have practised the Three Branches of my Profession for the last Thirteen Years, and performed some of the most important Operations.

After having passed those Examinations, where have you been subsequently?

I then resided in the Old Kent Road for Ten Years, and in Bermondsey Street for about Two Years.

Have you the Certificates of Honour which you produced at Bridgwater?

I have; this is one of my holding the Appointment of Surgeon to the Royal Maternity Charity.

The same is read as follows:

Royal Maternity Charity for delivering poor Married Women at their own Habitations, instituted 1757.

Patron, LEOPOLD King of the Belgians.

President, His Grace the Duke of Wellington.

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At a Meeting of the Committee held at the Bank Coffee House, Threadneedle Street, on Tuesday, February 7, 1837.

A Letter having been read from J. R. Ward, Esq., tendering his Resignation of the Office of Surgeon, it was Resolved unanimously, That this Committee accept Mr. Ward's Resignation, with Regret for the Cause thereof and for the Loss of his valuable Services, freely rendered to the Charity since the Year 1833; and

That the cordial Thanks of the Committee and Governors be presented to Mr. Ward for his uniformly prompt and efficient Assistance to the Midwives in the most difficult and dangerous Cases, for his Humanity to the Patients in visiting them at their own Homes by Day and by Night, and for the unwearied Devotion of his Time, professional Acquirements and Skill, to the Alleviation of their Sufferings.

Knight Rider Street, London ,

By order of the Committee ,
8th February 1837.
F. WILSON, Secretary.

1088 *What were you in the Royal Maternity Charity?*

Surgeon Accoucheur.

You were not merely a Pupil?

No; my Days of Pupilage had been long passed.

How were you chosen?

I was elected by Ballot, with an Opposition.

What is the next?

The next is a Certificate I presented to the Board of Guardians on my Election, from Dr. Ramsbotham.

The same is read as follows:

14, New Broad Street, 23d March 1837. Mr. John Rodney Ward has for many Years practised the Medical Profession in the Borough of Southwark with great Credit and Success. He was appointed one of the Surgeons Accoucheur to the Royal Maternity Charity in the Year 1833, which Office he held until his voluntary Resignation on leaving London. His Conduct in that public Capacity merits my warm Approbation and evinced superior Qualifications.

Francis H. Ramsbotham, M. D.,
Physician to the Royal Maternity Charity
Lecturer on Midwifery at the London Hospital,
&c. &c.

The next is one from Dr. James Blundell of Great George Street, Westminster, one of the first Physicians of the present Day.

The same is read as follows:

I have known Mr. Ward for a Period of several Years, and have always looked upon him as a Man of active Habits, intelligent, well - informed in his Profession, and a

good Obstetrician; and I feel fully persuaded that if he should be appointed to the Office which he solicits he will be found a very useful Officer.

1st April 1834 , James Blundell, M. D.
1, Great George Street, Westminster.

Here is another Certificate on my leaving London from the same Gentleman.

The same is read as follows:

22d March 1837.

Being requested by Mr. John Rodney Ward to state my Opinion respecting him, I have great Satisfaction in declaring that I believe him to be an active, zealous, humane, and intelligent Practitioner of Medicine in the Three Branches of the Art; and that I have now known him for a Period of several Years. Some Years ago I had Occasion to assist in recommending him to the Office of Surgeon to the Maternity Charity of London (the Royal), when he was appointed, and gave that Satisfaction which is attested in a Certificate now in hands, and which redounds very much to his Credit.

James Blundell, M. D.

Is that the Original?

It is.

Did you receive that Certificate in that State?

I did; Dr. Blundell is eccentric sometimes.

The next is from Dr. Walshman, of Kennington Common.

The same is read as follows:

I beg leave to certify I have known Mr. Ward Ten Years, and during that Period I have frequently had the Pleasure of meeting him in Consultation, and I always found him very correct in his Opinion, and well qualified to perform the Duties of his Profession.

You will see by his Certificates that he has had a very liberal Education, and has always made the best Use of it in order to obtain a perfect Knowledge of the several Branches of his Profession, and more especially the Obstetric; and therefore I have great pleasure in recommending him to your Attention.

Thomas Walshman, M. D.

Kennington Common ,
1st April 1834.

The next is from Mr. Callaway, a Gentleman rising very rapidly in his Profession.

1089 The same is read as follows:

March 23d, 1837, Wellington Street, London Bridge.

I have known Mr. John Rodney Ward during the Period he was a Student, and have met him several Times while he was practising as a Surgeon in this Neighbourhood; and it gives me Pleasure to state that on every Occasion he evinced a thorough Knowledge of his Profession in each of its Departments, and that he is well acquainted with Medical Science.

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T. Callaway.

The next is from Mr. Bransby Cooper.

The same is read as follows:

Mr. Bransby Cooper has great Pleasure in certifying that Mr. J. R. Ward was a Pupil at St. Thomas's and Guy's Hospitals for Three Years, during which Period he had ample Opportunities of becoming thoroughly acquainted with his Profession.

New Street, 23d March 1837.

Are those their genuine Handwritings?

They are. The best way will be to subpæna the Gentlemen themselves, if there is any Doubt about that.

You collected those Certificates on the Occasion of your offering yourself for Bridgwater?

No; on my leaving London.

Have you a Copy of your Card?

I never gave a Card; they clandestinely obtained that Card; it was never presented by me. The next is from Dr. Ramadge, Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, and Physician to the Infirmary for Diseases of the Chest, & c. & c.

The same is read as follows:

Ely Place, London, 23d March 1837. As Mr. J. R. Ward is on the Eve of leaving London in order to practise in the Country, I seize the present Occasion of recommending him as a highly intelligent and skilful Practitioner.

FRANCIS H. RAMADGE, M. D. ,

Fellow of the College of Physicians, and

Physician to the Infirmary for Diseases of the Chest.

This is not addressed to anybody?

No; I called and requested a Certificate, and he gave it to me.

The next is from Dr. Addison.

The same is read as follows:

I hereby certify that Mr. J. R. Ward was a Pupil at Guy's Hospital in 1825, where he had good Opportunity of making himself acquainted with the various Branches of his Profession.

24, New Street, London ,

Thomas Addison, M. D.

24th March 1837.

I held the Appointment of Consulting Surgeon to the Southwark Child - bed Charity for relieving poor Women for some Years, where I had an Opportunity of instructing some of the Medical Students in difficult Parturition; my Name is printed at the Bottom with other Names. Ashwell, Esq., - Clarke, Esq., — Croft, Esq., — Doubleday, Esq., Fowler, Esq., - Ward, Esq. I have also a Certificate from Mr. Anthony White, of Parliament Street, a Member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons.

The same is read as follows:

I have much Pleasure to bear Testimony to the medical and surgical Ability of Mr. John Rodney Ward, who has been well known to me many Years. I have often met Mr. Ward in private Practice with the great Satisfaction of always finding him a most humane, attentive, and excellent Practitioner.

Parliament Street, July 9th, 1838.

Anthony White.

1090 I have a Certificate of Mr. Samuel Cooper, the Author of the Dictionary, and Translator of Gooch's Practice of Medicine.

Into what Language?

Into English; from Latin into English.

The same is read as follows:

I have great pleasure in stating that Mr. John Rodney Ward is a Gentleman of considerable Professional Merit, and that from the Opportunities which I have had of meeting him in Practice I believe him to be well acquainted with the various Branches of Medical Science.

S. Cooper.

Woburn Place, July 9th, 1838

The next is from Mr. Aston Key, Surgeon of Guy's Hospital.

The same is read as follows:

Mr. J. R. Ward has been long known to me as a zealous Member of the Profession to which he belongs and as a well - informed Practitioner. He has enjoyed ample Opportunities of obtaining great Experience, and combines with much Industry Talent for Observation and a ready Perception of Disease.

St. Helen's Place, July 10.

C. Aston Key.

Surgeon to Guy's Hospital.

The next is from Sir Richard Bright, Physician to the Queen.

The same is read as follows:

It affords me great pleasure to bear my Testimony in favour of Mr. J. Rodney Ward with whom I first became acquainted as a diligent Pupil at Guy's Hospital many Years ago, and afterwards several Times met in Practice when he was settled in London; and from all I have seen of him, I do not hesitate to express my Belief that he will be found well prepared to discharge the Duties of his arduous Profession.

11, Saville Row, July 10th, 1838.

RICHARD Bright, M. D. ,
Physician to Guy's.

The last is from Nathaniel M'Cann, Esq. in Parliament Street

There is the Date of 1838 on some of these?

Yes, the last Five; but I beg to be permitted to

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put them in.

The same is read as follows:

This is to certify that I have known Mr. John Rodney Ward for several Years, and I have great Pleasure in testifying to his being a most intelligent medical and surgical Practitioner, having met him in private Practice.

Parliament Street, July 9th, 1838.

Nathaniel M'Cann.

In the Card which it appears was delivered in to the Board of Guardians you state yourself to be first of all a Licentiate in Medicine and Surgery of the University of Leyden?

That does not touch my foreign Qualifications; no foreign Qualification touches my Practice in London.

Are you a Licentiate in Medicine and Surgery of the University of Leyden?

No; I have kept my Time there; I was educated there, but in consequence of my Parents leaving I did not graduate, as I intended to have done.

What Card is this?

That is a Card printed when I was about practising in Pilgrim Street in Newcastle.

Did you deliver this Card to the Board of Guardians?

I may say I am positive I did not deliver it in.
(To Mr. Underdown)

How did you come by that Card?

Mr. Ward lodged with me, and my Son placed the Card in the Book.

(To Mr. Ward.)

Did you give it to Mr. Underdown?

No. I had a great Number about in Pilgrim Street; I never used it in Bridgewater.

1091 *Did you ever circulate that?*

I do not know that I ever did.

After your leaving the Kent Road where did you go?

I went to Newcastle.

How came you to leave the Kent Road?

I ruptured a Blood Vessel a great many Times, and my Profession went back, and I was confined to my Bed, or to the House, for Two or Three Years at Times.

Your Health did not permit you to continue in Practice in London?

No; I was in hopes by trying the Northern Air that it might brace my Chest, but it had the contrary Effect. I was anxious then to go to the South of France or to Devonshire when I saw

this Advertisement.

When did you go to Newcastle?

In March or April 1837.

What induced you to go to Newcastle; did you go merely for the Sake of getting Northern Air?

Not altogether; I had a Relation there, or at least Mrs. Ward had.

You are a married Man?

I am; I married the Daughter of Dr. Cullen Brown of Edinburgh.

You went there to settle as a Medical Man?

Not at first, but I found my Mind embarrassed from the Life I had led, having been so active, and I determined to engage in my Profession again.

When you went to Newcastle you lived in Pilgrim Street?

Yes.

You gave out Cards, did you not?

I never gave a Card out.

What was the Use of those Cards which were printed?

They were only printed a few Days before I saw this Appointment was vacant.

Have you not practised at all at Newcastle?

I had perhaps hardly a Dozen Patients under my Hands.

You had your Name upon the Door as Surgeon, had you not?

Yes, the same as I have now.

From the first?

Not from the first.

How long had you been at Newcastle before you put your Name upon the Door?

A Month or Two.

How long were you at Newcastle?

About Three Months.

Those Cards you had were not for Distribution at Newcastle?

I might have distributed them had I remained; they were printed with that Intention.

Were you a Licentiate of Medicine and Surgery of the University of Leyden; that is the first Thing you state yourself to be? ,

I was educated at Leyden College.

At what Time of your Life were you in Leyden College?

It must have been about 1818 to 1820.

What Age were you then?

I was about Fifteen or Sixteen to the best of my Belief.

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You attended Leyden College?

I did.

1092 *You studied Medicine there?*

I was studying more the Classics than
Medicine at that Time.

Did your Father and Mother live there?

Yes, they did; and I left it on account of their
leaving; I was obliged to give up attending.

Where did they leave to go to?

To come to London.

*At Leyden you did not study Surgery or
Medicine, but generally attended the University?*

Yes; and I attended the Hortus Siccus and
Medicus there.

*Are you, in point of fact, a Licentiate in Medicine
or Surgery of that University?*

I have not submitted to an Examination.

*Are you a Licentiate, or have you taken any
Degree there?*

I have not taken a Degree there.

*You know that you state yourself to be a
Licentiate of Medicine and Surgery in the University
of Leyden?*

I cannot see that there is any Crime in it,
having intended so to do.

What was your Object?

There were a great many in the
Neighbourhood who styled themselves
Physicians, indeed Three or Four in Newcastle,
and I know they were not s neither had they
had the Opportunities I have had of gaining
Experience in my Profession.

*Why did you state that which was not the Truth;
it was to introduce you self with greater Advantage
probably?*

I quite acknowledge the Error of doing it.

That was your Reason for doing it?

It was.

You admit it was wrong?

It was wrong

*And that you followed a very bad Example set by
other Men?*

Yes.

*Do you know any respectable Man that ever did
it?*

They were respectable as far as I knew.

*Do you mean to state that those Persons who
called themselves Physicians had not taken a Degree
as Doctor of Medicine?*

Never; nor yet had Half the Means of gaining
Information that I had.

At what Age did you leave Leyden?

I must have been about Eighteen or
Nineteen, to the best of my Belief.

When did you go there?

I left in September 1820; perhaps I was not so
old then.

How long had you been there?

Two or Three Years.

*You had been the first Part of your Time studying
the Classics?*

Yes: but I attended also the Hortus Siccus
and Medious.

*That is not true that you were Licentiate of
Medicine and Surgery of the University of Leyden?*

No, it is not. I may go next Week and take my
Degree.

*Did you state yourself to be late Consulting
Surgeon Accoucheur to the Royal Maternity Society,
Doctors Commons?*

Your Lordships have the Certificate from that
Society.

*Do you mean to state that you were ever
Consulting Surgeon to the Rosa Maternity Society,
Doctors Commons?*

I was Consulting Surgeon, and I will explain
that if I am permitted.

1093 *It appears that they accepted with Regret
your Resignation of the Office of Surgeon; but were
you Consulting Surgeon Accoucheur?*

Decidedly, in every Meaning of the Word. I
was called in to assist in the most difficult Cases
of Parturition.

Have you got any List of the Establishment?

I have not; it can be obtained.

*Is there any Appointment whatever in that
Charity of Consulting Surgeon?*

We are all considered Consulting Surgeons.

*You were not appointed Consulting Surgeon, but
you were merely a Surgeon?*

If I can understand the English, Surgeon
means the same Thing; that we are called in to
assist the Midwife who attends, and act upon
our own Responsibility.

*The Establishment is that of Midwives, and there
are certain Surgeons called in in difficult Cases to
assist them?*

Yes.

And you were one of those Persons?

I was.

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There are Surgeons appointed to attend in different Parts of Town who are attached to that Institution; are they not designated Assistant Surgeons?

I cannot say that they are.

Will you say that they are not?

No, I will not commit myself in that Manner.

That is the only Class of Surgeons connected with that Society, is it not?

Yes.

Does that Society employ Surgeons in any Case, except to assist and consult with Midwives?

Never.

The Committee have before them this Letter from Dr. Ramsbotham:

“ Mr. J. R. Ward was for, I think, about Two Years One of the Assistant Surgeons to the Royal Maternity Charity for the Borough District ”?

That is remarkable. I had a Vote of Thanks, and here is a Letter to a Gentleman at Bridgwater, a Quaker, whose Lady I was about to put to Bed, and he did not like that I should attend her until he wrote to Mr. Wilson, the Secretary, and he received this Answer:

17, Little Knight Rider Street,
Doctors Commons,
London ,

Sir , 13th November 1837.

In reply to your Letter received To - day I beg leave to inform you in Justice to Mr. Ward, whom I had not the Pleasure of knowing previously to his Connexion with the Royal Maternity Charity, that he was elected one of its Medical Officers on the Ground of his Competence as a Licentiate of the Apothecaries Company, and that he produced to the Committee of our Charity the proper Documents and most satisfactory Testimonials in support of his Pretensions. Our Charitable Society is not one of Yesterday's Origin, and it numbers among its Members very respectable Individuals of all Classes and Denominations, including not a few of the Body of “ Friends. ” When Mr. Ward resigned his Office in the Society he received the unanimous Thanks of the Committee for his gratuitous, humane, and skilful Treatment of the Patients committed to his Care. Since the Period of his Removal from London several of his former Patients have expressed to me their Regret for the Loss they have sustained in their able and kind Surgeon's Departure, and I am convinced that he well deserved their Confidence. Hoping that my humble Testimony may prove satisfactory to all Parties, and desiring to apologize for putting you to the Expense of Double Postage for the enclosed printed Paper, showing that Mr. Ward belonged to the Maternity Charity in the End of last Year, the Time of the Papers having been in the Press ,

Sir ,
I beg leave to subscribe myself
Your obedient Servant ,
F. Wilson, Secretary.

That is a private Letter to Mr. Payne of Bridgwater.

1094 *Is that Mr. Payne the Chemist and Druggist?*

It is.

What became of the Enclosure?

I know nothing about it.

The next is Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary for Diseases of Children, where was that formed?

It was formed at my own House, where we attended Children from Eight to Ten.

Are you aware that there are such Things as Royal Infirmaries for Diseases of Children?

We established Medical Institutions on our own Responsibility.

Was there any one besides yourself engaged in this?

Not continuously; it was for the Education of my Pupils.

Are you aware that there are Infirmarys for the Diseases of Children; one in the Waterloo Road?

Yes, there is.

That has a regular Set of Officers, and so forth?

It has.

If any one saw you spoken of as Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary for the Diseases of Children, would not that induce him to suppose you were connected with one of those public Bodies?

I cannot help what People may suppose. It was quite a young Institution and intended to establish a Set of Officers.

In fact you were not connected with any public Society?

Never but that and the others before mentioned in Evidence.

Can you take upon yourself to state that this Institution which you set up yourself was called the Royal Infirmary for Diseases of Children?

It was an Infirmary for the Diseases of Children; I called it so myself.

On what Authority did you give it a Royal Designation?

I do not know that Royalty is any particular Credit; it is merely Matter of Form.

When you gave it that Designation had any Permission to assume the Title of Royal been obtained?

I do not feel that I am obliged to ask for such a Thing; I might have called it by any other

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Name.

What was your Object in doing it?

To give my Pupils an Opportunity of seeing Practice, and benefit the Poor.

What Object had you in putting the Term “ Royal? ”

I had none.

Why did you then make use of the Term “ Royal ” with respect to that Institution?

Because it pleased me.

It is not true that there was any Encouragement given you by any Part of the Royal Family, but you used that Word without any Permission whatever?

I would not wish to obtain it; I have no Motive in wishing to obtain it.

Do not you think that the using it would be apt to deceive Persons?

I should be happy to submit to the Punishment To - morrow if it is so; I am quite ready to answer for it.

Are you not of opinion that stating yourself to be Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary for the Diseases of Children was calculated to mislead Persons in respect of the Character of your Institution?

I am upon my Oath, and now solemnly state that I had no such Intention.

1095 *Do not you think that that Designation of your Society was calculated, whether you intended it or not, to deceive the Public?*

I do not.

Will you swear that?

I will not.

You will remember you are upon your Oath?

I am aware of that; but I am not called upon to answer unreasonable Questions.

It is not for you to judge how far the Question is reasonable or unreasonable; you must answer the Question?

I have done that Three or Four Times, and I have said that I had no Intention to deceive the Public whatever..

You assumed that without Authority?

Authority is not required, in my Opinion.

Had you any Authority?

No; nor I never asked it.

Will you name any other Person but yourself who was a Surgeon of that Institution?

I have said it was a young Institution; an Institution I had not asked any one to belong to, or there are a great many in the Neighbourhood who would have come into it, I have no Doubt.

There were no others connected with it?

There was no Necessity for it.

The next is Consulting Surgeon Accoucheur to the Southwark Child - bed Society, Guy's Hospital?

I think there is a printed Document there which will state that.

Is this the Paper you refer to?

That is the Paper respecting it. When Dr. Blundell left the Chair, and Dr. Ashwell accepted it, I withdrew, as did all the other Officers. It will appear in the Paper when I held the Appointment Four or Five Years ago, and for Five or Six Years assisted.

What had that to do with Guy's Hospital?

The Midwifery Chair for the Education of young Gentlemen was conducted by it; all the Cases of Midwifery were attended by them; they could learn Midwifery in no other way than by taking those Cases.

This is called Southwark Child - bed Charity for the Relief of Poor Women at their own Habitations; there is nothing about Guy's Hospital?

The Gentleman who held the Professorship was Physician Accoucheur to Guy's Hospital.

Was the Society connected with Guy's Hospital?

Decidedly; the young Men educated there have an Opportunity of seeing the cases; it is from Guy's Hospital Tickets are given; and if any one got into Danger we were called in.

Dr. James Blundell appears to be Director, and then there follow the Names of Six who are described as Consulting Surgeon Accoucheurs, among which is your own Name, described of the Old Kent Road; but on what Ground do you state it to be connected with Guy's Hospital?

I can explain that in no other Way than I have done, — that every School has a Professor of Midwifery or such Branches as he has an Opportunity of establishing, or the ordinary Means of establishing. In this case there was an Institution for Midwifery. The Professor gives the Pupils who sit under him for Midwifery Letters to attend Midwifery Cases; where they attend they must have a Letter of this Description. No one without a Letter can attend Guy's Hospital and this Institution attached to it.

Was Dr. Blundell attached to Guy's Hospital?

He was One of the Professors.

1096 *Was he Director of this Society in virtue of his Connexion with Guy's: Hospital?*

He was, and no one otherwise.

Was Dr. Ashwell connected with Guy's Hospital?

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Dr. Ashwell has now the Chair.
He was connected with Guy's Hospital?
Yes.
Was Mr. Croft connected with Guy's Hospital?
They all were.
Was it in virtue of their Connexion with Guy's Hospital they belonged to this Society?
I do not understand your Lordship's Question.
It appears that Medicines must be ordered in Writing in the Blank of this Letter, Bottles must be provided by the Patient, and Application must be made for the Medicine to Mr. Rouse, Chemist and Druggist, No. 272, High Street, Borough, formerly South's; the above Certificate being first signed. There is not a Word of Guy's Hospital throughout the whole of this?
The only Plan I have of explaining this is to call in Dr. Blundell, who will explain.
What is that Seal?
That is my Seal; I attach it on giving the Letter. If the Woman dies, or is injured, I am called upon as responsible.
That has not been given to any Woman?
It never has been given, but I seal it ready to deliver to a Woman; it has never been brought into Use.
Are those Indian Characters on the Seal?
I believe they are; I have not the Advantage of understanding the Hindostanee Language.
An Honorary Member of the Physical Society at Guy's Hospital?
I cannot confirm myself there more than by looking over the Papers; my Name is entered in their Books.
What do you mean by 6 Honorary Member of the Physical Society?
There are Discussions held every Saturday in the Year, where the Surgeons attend, and Cases are discussed, and Papers read.
It is a Sort of Debating Society of Medical Men?
You may call it so.
Was it or not so?
I wish it to be understood that your Lordship would not call it wrong.
Is it so or not?
It is so, to a certain Degree.
This Physical Society at Guy's is a Society of young Men who meet for the Purpose of discussing physical Questions?
No; it is Gentlemen of some standing in the

Profession; no young Men are admitted into it.
Have the Society certain Meetings for the Discussion of Medical Subjects?
For the Advancement of Science.
Are they all Persons who are either Physicians or Surgeons of Guy's Hospital?
No, that does not follow.
Why then is this connected with Guy's?
Because it was held in the Theatre of Guy's, and I was a Pupil there and St. Thomas's also, and joined it in preference to any other.
The Meetings for Discussion are held in the Theatre of Guy's Hospital?
1097 *Is it confined to Pupils connected with Guy's Hospital?*
No, any Gentleman who is elected; but he must be in Practice.
Who is at the Head of it?
Sir Richard Bright, I believe, now.
What is he called?
President.
President of what?
The Physical Society of Guy's Hospital.
Is Dr. Bright called the President?
I believe he is now the President; sometimes Dr. Addison, sometimes Mr. Aston Key.
Whoever is President is he called the President of the Physical Society?
I have seen Hundreds of Bills posted up with their Names, appointing the reading of certain Papers.
Are they called so?
I cannot speak positively; it is Ten or Twelve Years since I attended the Meetings regularly, and I cannot speak positively to that Fact now.
Do you not know what the Society was called?
I believe he was called the President of the Physical Society of Guy's Hospital. I suppose he must be a President like any other President, taking the Chair for the Evening.
Was he the President of the Physical Society of Guy's Hospital?
I never knew it to go by any other Name.
Did you know it to go by that Name?
Yes; it always went by that Name.
Have you any printed Paper in existence by which it is so designated?
I believe that every Saturday in the Theatre of Guy's it may be seen what Papers are going to be read, and who are the Authors of the Papers.

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At what Time of the Day?

I believe all Times of the Day. I know that Papers do exist to certify the Subject to be discussed.

It is a Debating Society?

It is conducted on a more scientific Footing than a Debating Society; it is on the same Footing as the Zoological Society, or any other scientific Society.

How long is it since you left it; you were understood to say you left it Fourteen Years ago?

I have gone there within these Four or Five Years.

Was it usual to notify the Election?

Yes, in the Books kept by the Committee.

Did you receive a printed Notice filled up?

Yes, I believe I did; but I cannot speak to that.

Who kept the Books?

I should say the Secretary.

Is he an Officer of Guy's Hospital?

He is; I believe he is the Librarian.

You state yourself to have been an Honorary Member of the Society?

We were all Honorary Members, I believe.

You lived in Pilgrim Street at Newcastle?

I did.

Did you obtain any Practice at Newcastle?

Nothing of any Moment. I was in a very bad State of Health then.

Did not you propose to give Lectures?

Never; nor any thing so absurd.

1098 *You did not propose to give Lectures to Female Practitioners in Midwifery?*

Never.

Did you never consult any one on that Subject?

Never. I was a perfect Stranger there.

Do you mean to say you did not call on a Medical Practitioner at Newcastle, and consult him on the Propriety, and probable Profit, of giving Lectures to Female Practitioners on Midwifery?

I will swear I did not.

Did you inquire of him, this person having himself delivered Lectures of the Description, what the Terms were upon which he delivered those Lectures?

I swear I am perfectly unacquainted with the Question.

You mean that you never did?

I never did call on any Medical Man. There is a Medical Man connected with the Masonic

Order, and I have spoken to him, but never about this Subject; that is the only Medical Man in Newcastle I have spoken to.

Who is that Gentleman?

I am now not acquainted with his Name so well as I am with his Character.

Whereabouts does he live in Newcastle?

I cannot tell that; I never was at his House.

Where did you see him?

At our Masonic Meetings.

Being a Freemason you attended the Masonic Meetings at Newcastle?

I attended several.

You met there with this Person who was a Medical Man?

I doubt whether he is; he practises Medicine.

You are very rash?

I am upon my Oath, and I am responsible.

You mean to say that he has no Medical Skill, though he practises; is the what you mean to say?

I think I would say more than that, but not at present.

Does he practise as a Physician?

He practises as any thing.

Has he no Degree in Physic?

I do not believe he has any; he is like many others in Bridgwater.

What passed between you?

I do not think I am at liberty to state what passed between us.

You will not go so far as to say whether there was any Conversation about giving Lectures?

There was Conversation about Masonic Orders; nothing more.

Was there no Conversation between you as to giving these Lectures?

I will swear there was not.

You never called upon him by Chance afterwards?

I knew not where he lived.

Were you introduced to him in that Place?

We were introduced as a Matter of Form.

That was a Masonic Order?

Yes.

You never knew his Name?

I knew it then, of course.

It is Brother so and so, on your Introduction, is it not?

I believe it is so; but it does not concern me

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much now.

1099 *You probably heard his Name at that Time?*

I must have heard it at that Time, but I do not recollect it. I never spoke to any other Medical Man in Newcastle.

How did you know that he was a Medical Man?

He was stated to be a Medical Man; he gave Lectures on Masonry to the Brethren.

You took Charge of the Workhouse at Bridgwater in the Month of July 1837?

Yes.

How came you to go to Bridgwater?

Did you see the Advertisement at. Newcastle?

I did.

You thought that afforded you an opening for the Practice of your Profession?

I did. My Mind was embarrassed at the Time, having so many Years had a very active Life.

You took Charge of the Division of Bridgwater in which the Workhouse is situated in the Month of July 1837?

I did.

Was it the 14th of July you were elected?

I believe it was.

In what State was that Workhouse at the Time?

In a very dirty State.

When you say it was in a very bad State, was there a great deal of Disease in the House?

There was a great deal of Dirt in the House.

First of all, with regard to the Health of Patients; was there a great deal of Disease in the House?

There was not so much active Disease.

What Description of Disease was there particularly in the House at the Time?

The Children were labouring under cutaneous Diseases.

Do you mean the Itch?

No; not any thing so filthy.

What do you mean?

They had Eruptions indicative of internal Disease.

What were the internal Diseases of which that was indicative?

It was indicative of a Disease of the Chylopoietic Viscera.

Was there any Diarrhæa in the House?

To the best of my Belief there were not more than Two or Three Cases.

Did you make Inquiry as to the State of the Workhouse a short Time previous to that?

I had to learn that. I had no Medical Man to direct me or meet me.

Did you inquire of Persons in and about the Workhouse?

I did, as to the present Time; but I did not inquire of past Circumstances.

You did not think it worth while to inquire how far the State of the House had been different shortly before?

No. People were so busy in buzzing Maladies into my Ears I thought I would judge for myself.

You did not think it worth while inquiring about it?

My Ears were so buzzed into, that I heard of nothing but Diarrhæa.

From what you heard, what appeared to have been the State of the House a short Time previously?

They appeared to have had a Bowel Disease; but every thing was attributed to Diarrhæa.

1100 *Is not Diarrhoea a Bowel Disease?*

It is a Bowel Disease of a peculiar Character. The Diarrhæa may be distinguished into Seven or Eight Classes, attacking different Membranes or Organs.

Still all the Seven or Eight Classes would be Diarrhæa?

Diarrhæa is often set up to relieve other Diseases. Different Congestions of the System when improperly stopped often terminate in Death. I would rather accelerate Diarrhea than stop it abruptly.

You were not asked how you would treat Diarrhæa, but asked as to the fact of the State of the House for a short Time before?

I would wish to support the Station I fill. If I may go from Hearsay, I heard that a very great Number were perpetually dying of Diarrhæa.

Was the Medical Book put into your Hand?

It was.

Had you an Opportunity of turning back and seeing what Diseases had been prevalent in the House before you took it, and did you do that?

I do not think I did, for I should pay no Respect to the Reports of the Gentlemen who wrote it.

You took to the House, and then from your own Observation of the Patients wrote down what you thought were their real Complaints?

To the best of my Knowledge.

Those Entries after the 14th of July are your Entries?

I believe they are mine, or my clinical Clerk;

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the Clerk who attended the Bedside with me.

You are responsible for the Entries?

I am.

You say you would not inquire into those Entries because you had no Respect for the Talent of the Man who wrote them?

I had not. I am to judge and account for the Diseases myself.

You had no Respect for the Talent of the Man who wrote the Entries?

No; they behaved too ungentlemanly to me.

Was it that you did not look at the Book because you had no Respect to the Persons who had preceded you in charge of the Workhouse?

Your Lordships must be aware that I had to make out the Cases myself.

Did you refer to the Book previously?

I might have looked the Book over, but I cannot swear that I did.

You stated that the Reason of your not referring to the Entries was that you had no Respect for the Talent of the Man who wrote them?

I will now say that.

How long had you known the Person who had written them?

I had known him a short Time. It was sufficiently long to make me quite disgusted that I ever entered the Union or Bridgwater.

With what were you disgusted?

The Medical Officers Conduct was perfectly ungentlemanly and dishonour able.

Why were you disgusted with them?

They were asked by the Gentlemen of the Board to show me their Cases on my undertaking them.

In your Presence?

Yes. They did not act as Gentlemen; they refused that Assistance. I therefore had to make out all the Cases myself, without the Assistance of any one.

Why did that Circumstance induce you not to have Confidence in what they had stated before in their Medical Statements?

I had heard Things truly disgusting to the Honour and Dignity of the Profession , of the **1101** Gentlemen of Bridgwater at my Hotel. Two Medical Gentlemen there mentioned to me the Qualifications of Two or Three Individuals, Medical Officers, who held Appointments under the Union, and their ungentlemanly Conduct.

Those are Medical Persons residing in

Bridgwater?

In and about Bridgwater.

Were they so at the Time?

Yes.

All you learned with respect to the Workhouse was from Reports made to you by Persons about the Workhouse?

Previous to my taking it.

Did you understand that there had been Diarrhea, and that it had been very rife in that House a short Time previously?

I did.

Did the Medical Men refuse to give you any Statement of their Cases?

I heard that they did.

Did you try them?

I did not apply to them personally.

You did not hear them refuse?

I believe I heard Mr. Caswell say that.

He was not the Medical Man of the Workhouse?

No, he was one of the Officers.

Did Mr. Abraham King refuse?

I believe he did.

You do not know it of your own Knowledge?

No; I have some Recollection, but not sufficient to swear by.

You say there were Three Cases of Diarrhæa when you first took possession of the Workhouse; did those Cases continue or did they go off?

To the best of my Belief they went off under Treatment.

Had you any fresh Cases of Diarrhæa?

I cannot say.

You had nothing to signify?

Nothing alarming.

You say you found the House in a very dirty State?

The House was dirty, so far that in wet Weather it was covered with Filth. I ordered Sawdust to be used; it was filthy dirty.

Was it dirty from the Beds being improperly cleaned, or any thing of that Sort?

The Beds did not look proper Beds to lie on; they were very dirty, exceedingly filthy.

The Filth and Dirt was from Persons diseased having lain in them, and the Consequence of Diarrhæa, and so forth?

I should say they were wetted.

By Evacuations from the Patients?

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Yes.
That they had been so some Time before?
Yes.
Were the Evacuations Fæces or Urine?
Both, I should think; and other Dirt also.
Was that the Case in most of the Beds.?
No, not in most.
1102 *What Rooms were the Beds in where that was the Case?*
I should say up the first Flight of Stairs.
Was that where the sick Persons were kept?
I believe they were indiscriminately mixed.
Was there no Sick Ward?
I believe not; there was not when I took the Office.
No Ward peculiarly appropriated to the Sick?
Not directly appropriated.
You heard there had been a great deal of Diarrhoea?
I heard so.
Were not those Diarrhæa Patients kept apart by themselves?
I believe not; I asked the Question.
Do you know an old Woman of the Name of Reed?
Yes.
She was Nurse while you were there?
Yes; occasionally.
Did you ask her upon the Subject?
I might have done it, but I cannot recollect that I did. You understood that that was the Case, that the Patients were not separated?
I know it was so; I found them all mixed.
How many did you find sleeping in a Bed?
That I cannot say correctly.
Have you found more than one in a Bed?
Decidedly.
Have you found more than One sick Person in a Bed?
I believe not
Had the sick Persons each a Bed to themselves?
I think they had, but I am not sure.
Were there many sick Children in the House?
No.
The sick Children had been removed to North Petherton?
Yes.
How many Children have you found in a Bed?

Three or Four.
More than Two in a Bed?
Yes.
Have you in any Cases known more than Two?.
I believe I have seen Three in a Bed.
Three Men?
I think Children more particularly.
Two Women and a Child, perhaps; not Three grown Women?
I will not be sure that I have not seen Three grown Women; I know I have seen Two.
Could there have been Three without Mary Reed's knowing it?
I think there might.
How could that be?
She did not always go round with me.
Did you ever go round at Night?
Three Times a Day, and sometimes Four Times a Day.
You have gone round at Night?
Yes: I have been at Twelve and One o'Clock.
1103 *Have you seen the Women Three in a Bed then?*
Mr. J. R. Ward. I have occasionally.
Have you seen that more than once?
No; I have seen sufficient to make an Impression on my Mind. I have seen Two, I know.
You are asked about Three?
Those were Children principally. I will not swear that I have seen Three Women.
Have you seen Three Men?
I will not swear that I have seen Three Men.
Will you swear you have not?
I think it would have made an Impression upon my Mind if I had.
It would strike you as an extraordinary Fact if you saw Three grown - up Men in a Bed?
Indeed I have seen so much in Life that nothing would astonish me.
Have you ever been in the habit of seeing Three Men in a Bed?
I have seen more than that.
Where have you seen that?
Not exactly in this country.
Was the House considered full when you took it?
I believe it was, but it had been fuller.
How many were there when you took it?
I cannot say.

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You understood it had been fuller?

Decidedly so, for that many had slept in a Bed, they were obliged to put several in a Bed. I do not speak to that as having seen it, but as having heard it.

You remained in this House till January 1838, did not you?

January 1838 or December 1837; it was a little before Christmas I think.

Did the Paupers then remove to the new House?

Yes.

After their Arrival at the new House, do you remember a Pauper being brought into the House who was suffering under Delirium tremens?

I do.

What was his Name?

His Name was Edward Cross; Thirty Years of Age.

What Date was that?

The 17th of July.

You were asked about a Man in the new House?

That Man never came into the new House?

Who makes the Entries in the Books?

My Pupil, under my Direction.

Is he a Quaker?

Yes, he is.

Do you remember a Man of the Name of Breffit, who came in on the 4th of November?

I remember the Man.

The Disease you have put opposite to him is Congestion of the Brain; is that a Brain Fever, or what does it mean?

The Seat of that Fever is in the Brain; it is a Determination of Blood to the Head, or other functional Derangement. I cannot say how Things might turn out; it put on this Character at first.

1104 *Was the Man in a very wild State?*

The Man was in a deplorable State; worn down by Disease before he was admitted.

Was he in a very violent and wild State?

He was not labouring under a Disorder of the Brain to make him deranged: he was not furious.

Who attended upon that Man?

Rowsell.

Is this Tendency of Blood to the Head infectious?

No.

Breffit recovered?

He did, after going through the putrid Form of Fever; he had Fever, Congestion of the Brain is the Cause at Times of Fever, varying according to the Habit of Body and the Life led; this is the Character of the Fever: goes on till it goes into its last Stage or Typhoid.

He was attended by Rowsell?

Yes, principally.

Rowsell was taken ill of the Fever too, was not he?

Yes; not of the Fever, he was taken ill of a Complaint very similar to that under which Breffit was labouring; he was labouring under Congestion of the Brain certainly.

It is called in the Book Congestion of the Head?

It is the same Thing.

Rowsell died?

He did; the Disease put on a more dangerous Form.

He was attended on from the 24th of November to the 13th of December, and died on the 14th of December?

Yes; but he was not ill all that Time.

At what Time did Congestion of the Head come on?

It did not come on till shortly before his Death; he was first rather look in the Bowels, but on examining the Secretions I would not swear that it was Diarrhæa, - simply a Bowel Complaint.

What do you call Eniepholitis?

A congested State of the Brain, an inflammatory Disease of the Brain; he had Looseness of the Bowels, then when Nature was making an Effort to throw off the Disease he died from Paralysis; Nature up to the last Hour made Efforts.

Is he entered as dying of Paralysis?

He had Paralysis, the Result of the Brain Disease,

Did he die of that?

The Brain never put on a healthy Action after being taken.

Had he any Typhus or Putrid Fever upon him?

It put on a slight Typhoid Character, but not a decided Typhus Character.

He had nursed a Man who had Typhoid?

Yes.

Can you take upon you to say he did not catch this Typhus Fever in consequence of his Attendance on the Man who had it?

Yes. It was not Typhus Fever he laboured under; but, from frequent watching, the Man's System was predisposed to Disease; the same as

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any perfect Stranger would be ,

Did he or not catch this Fever from the Man on whom he attended?

It was a different Disease though it put on the same Character as that of me Man he attended at one Time.

He had Congestion of the Brain?

Yes. Congestion of the Brain is not contagious.

1105 *You said he had also Typhoid Fever?*

At last it put on the Character of Typhoid, when the System was giving up.

The Man he attended had also had the Typhoid Fever?

Decidedly.

Do you give it as your Opinion that he had caught the Typhus Fever from the other Man?

No, for this Reason: Rowsell laboured under Congestion of the Head almost from the Beginning of my taking Office, and had before, as reported, been subject to it; and he was complaining of perpetual Headaches.

When did he first come under your Care?

The 21st of June. He was not taken with Congestion of the Brain till the 14th of December. My Note at the Time was this: " This Man was labouring under Congestion of the Brain when I took Office. " Fatigue from nursing several of the Sick might have brought on the Disease to which he was pre disposed; and he died.

Whether it was Congestion of the Head, or whatever it was, it was brought on by attending the Sick?

He had it before he nursed Breffit, and was cured of it for the Time.

You say it was brought on again by Fatigue from nursing the Sick?

Yes. There was no appointed Nurse. He attended daily to all the Men. I frequently cautioned him.

You say Breffit had the Typhoid Fever upon him?

He had towards the Close of the Disease.

And Rowsell attended upon him?

Yes.

There was a Man of the Name of Edward Jarmin?

He was Seventy - five Years of Age; he was admitted with a formidable Skin Disease, the worst State of cutaneous Disease he could be labouring under. His Body was quite scabby. He was admitted the 13th of October 1837. I will read my Note I made at the Time: " Entered the House, labouring under Lepra Vulgaris, Leprosy, mixed

with rank Itch; in a beastly State. " That was a kind of cutaneous Disease, of which he was cured; immediately after wards he became hemiplegistic; he became paralyzed.

When did he become paralyzed?

Immediately the cutaneous Disease was removed.

What did he die of ultimately?

He died from Paralysis Hemiplegica on the Right Side.

When did he die?

He died the 24th of December, I think.

Had he nursed this unfortunate Man?

No.

Had not he lived with him?

No, to the best of my Recollection he had not. It is worthy of Observation on this Occasion, and I hope it will be observed, that though cutaneous Diseases may be cured or relieved to a considerable Extent, much Mischief may accrue in curing a Man labouring under cutaneous Disease, Nature frequently making an Effort to the Skin to throw off the obnoxious Quality of the Blood. This Man died.

Who forced you to cure this Itch?

It is the Plan with the Profession; it is the Practice pursued to cure cutaneous Diseases whenever they occur, indiscriminately and immediately.

1106. *Did you interfere with that?*

No. I merely mention it on this Occasion to show how Divine Providence acts frequently in setting up a Disease of no Danger which is very obnoxious and troublesome certainly to the Human Race; we are exceedingly anxious to get rid of the Disease, but when we get rid of it, after it has prevailed a long Time, another Disease invariably follows, the Consequences of which are a Determination to some important Organ, and Death ensues.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

The Reverend BENJAMIN POPE is called in, and examined as follows:

YOU are a Clergyman of Nether Stowey?

I am.

Do you remember a Woman of the Name of Charlotte Allen?

I do.

Do you remember visiting her soon after she was brought to Bed?

Not very soon after.

How soon after?

Not for Three or Four Months.

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Mrs. Pope saw her before that?

Yes, she did.

When did Mrs. Pope see her?

I think very shortly after the Child was brought to me to be privately baptized.

Why was the Child brought to you to be privately baptized?

Because it was ill, as I was informed.

Was it immediately upon that Baptism Mrs. Pope went down to see the Mother of the Child?

No.

How soon after did she go?

I do not think she went till it was reported that the Woman had been used cruelly.

Do you mean used cruelly by the Midwife?

No, by the Parish, and by the Guardians; not till my Attention was called to it by the Pamphlet which was published.

Do you know whether Mrs. Pope examined the Person of the Woman at all at that Time?

She did not examine her Person certainly.

She knows nothing about her Medical Treatment, or the Laceration of the Perinæum?

She knows nothing at all of that.

Nor you neither?

No, I know nothing on that Point; but I should wish to state to your Lordships that I examined the Woman as to the Charge of Cruelty, and as to the Refusal to give her Medical Relief, and she told me expressly that it was her Wish to have a Woman to attend her, and that she had no Complaint whatever to make against the Guardians of the Parish or the Relieving Officer, or Kitty Walker; that she had been treated with very great Kindness.

Did she tell you that she had herself expressed a Wish not to have a Medical Man but to have a Woman?

She did tell me that she had expressed that Wish.

Yes.

1107 *You found her ill?*

I was sent for in consequence of being informed that she was at the Point of Death.

Who informed you that she was at the Point of Death?

Her Mother.

Did she come up for the Purpose of telling you that?

No; my Servant went to her to take her some Chicken Broth, - I had been in the habit of sending her Things occasionally, - when

Charlotte Allen said she should be glad to see me. I went immediately; it happened to be on a Sunday. The Mother told me she was just at the Point of Death, that she was too unwell to see me, that she was delirious. I said I was surprised to hear that, as I had just received a Message from the Woman herself, and I must request to go up Stairs that I might see her Daughter. I went up to her, and supposing that the Information I had received was correct, I approached the Bed very carefully. I found her in a very delicate State; I began talking to her, and very soon found that she was not in the State described to me.

She was not at the Point of Death, or delirious?

No. I felt her Pulse, and I considered her Pulse to be as good as my own. Being informed that she had been very much alarmed by the Threat of being sent to the Union Workhouse I talked to her upon that Point. She told me she had a very great Dread of it, for she was told it was no better than being in a Prison, and that her Child would be taken from her. I told her this Report was not correct; that she would be treated with every possible Kindness, and be made very comfortable; and my Advice to her was that she should go into the Workhouse. I then asked her particularly as to the Complaint which I understood had been made against the Parish and the Guardians, and she said she had no Complaint whatever to make against the Gentlemen. I asked her whether she had applied to have the Attendance of the Surgeon; she said no, it was her own particular Request to have the Midwife instead of the Parish Doctor.

She told you that personally?

Yes.

Did she tell you she had suffered from her Lying - in?

Yes; she told me that she was not able to sit up for any Length of Time. I could not judge of that while she was in Bed, but I considered her as unlikely to die as I was myself.

Do you believe that was her Impression at the Time she continued talking to you, that she was in a dying State?

Certainly not. I considered that there was a vast deal of Duplicity about the Woman herself, and a great deal of Duplicity in those about her.

She continued ill a long Time did not she, keeping her Bed?

Yes; she was confined a long Time.

Have you any Reason to suppose any Part of her Illness was feigned?

I am decidedly of that Opinion.

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On what do you found that Opinion?

I ground it on her Mother's Statement, and that of others, as compared with that of the Woman herself when I was sent for to attend her officially.

You went to administer to her, thinking that she was in Articulo Mortis?

Yes.

Had you Occasion to see Mr. Ruddock or Mr. King soon afterwards, and to mention your calling on her?

I saw Mr. Ruddock the Day afterwards, I think.

He is the Medical Gentleman who had the Care of the District?

Yes. He said " I understand, Mr. Pope, you have been to see Charlotte Allen, and say nothing was the Matter. " I replied, " I have not said exactly so; I know nothing of her particular local Complaint, of course, but as to her general Health, I should say it is as good as mine. "

1108 *Did he say any thing as to that?*

He said "Oh is that is your Opinion, is it?" I said, " es, it is "

Was that all which passed?

Yes; but I had a Conversation with him soon after the Child was brought to me to be baptized. The Mother told me the Child would certainly die, and that Mortification had actually taken place on the Mother, and that she could not live.

How long was that after her Confinement?

A few Days after her Confinement. The Woman came to my House a few Days after this for Wine for her Daughter. Mrs. Pope said, " We never give Wine unless it is recommended by the Doctor; if you will get an Order from Mr. Ruddock or Mr. King to say that Wine is necessary she shall have that or any thing else. " The Mother said, " Mr. Ruddock says it is of no consequence; the Wine will not hurt her, as Mortification has taken place. " I saw her, and I saw Mr. Ruddock immediately after this, and he said that Mortification had taken place, and that she could not possibly live.

This was previous to the Publication of the Pamphlet?

Yes; from that Time to the Publication of the Pamphlet I never heard any thing more about it. She had Things occasionally from my House. On the Publication of the Pamphlet Mrs. Pope called upon her and told her that any thing she wanted she might have from the Vicarage; she gave her Money, and asked what she particularly wanted. The Mother said the Parish

were very hard with her; they would not allow any one to sit up with her at Night. My Wife said, " I will send one of my Servants. " One of my Servants was sent for that Purpose, and when she got there she found that the Woman had plenty of proper Help afforded her by the Parish.

Your Impression upon the whole is, that the Woman exceedingly exaggerated her own Case?

It was very much exaggerated by the Woman herself, and those around her.

Was there any Party made in the Parish about this, as for the Doctors or against the Doctors, in this Dispute; was it a Party Affair among the People in the Parish?

The People in the Parish are generally of opinion that it is a Case of Deception now.

Was there any Party got up to make this case appear worse than it really was?

I think there was. '

Do you think that Industry, was used to aggravate it?

Yes.

By whom?

By the different Medical Officers.

Mr. Ruddock gave it as his Opinion that Mortification had taken place?

Yes.

He is a Medical Officer of considerable Experience, is not he?

He is a very young Man.

He could not of course be supposed to be partaking in this general System you are speaking of, getting up a Party in the Parish?

Mr. Ruddock is a particular Friend of mine, and his Father is one of the oldest Acquaintances I have, and I should be sorry to be required to answer that Question.

You are not a Guardian, either ex officio or elected?

I am not.

That Opinion you gave as to the State of Charlotte Allen's Health when you saw her you derived from feeling her Pulse?

From feeling her Pulse and from the Manner of her speaking to me.

1109 *You are of course in the habit of seeing your Parishioners who are in a bad State of Health or in a dying State?*

Always.

You live constantly in the Parish and perform the Duty?

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I do.
Can you say whether she had this Laceration of the Perinæum?
No.
Or whether there was a Prolapsus Uteri?
I have heard from some Persons that there was not, and from others that there was.
From whom have you heard that there was not either of those Things?
I think I have heard that To - day.
From whom?
That it was so very trifling that it was not a Thing to be considered as serious.
From whom did you hear that?
I think I heard it from Mr. Ward.
Are you sure you heard it from Mr. Ward?
I think I did.
Did Mr. Ward state to you that there was no Laceration of the Perinæum?
That it was very trifling.
Did he state to you that there had been no Prolapsus Uteri?
I think he did.
When did he say there was no Prolapsus Uteri?
I never spoke to Mr. Ward until I saw him Today in the Waiting Room.
He stated to you that the Laceration of the Womb was very trifling?
Yes.
Was that which he stated that the Injury at the present Moment was very trifling?
The Injury at the Time of his Examination of her I particularly spoke of.
He did not describe what had been the Extent of the Injury immediately after the Confinement?
He did not; he did not see her immediately after.
Did you receive from Mr. Ward any Idea of the Extent of the Injury at the Time of the Confinement?
I do not know that he gave an Opinion as to the Extent of the Injury at the Time of the Confinement, but at the Time of his Examination.
Did he say that there was any Appearance of there having been a consider able Laceration of the Perinæum?
The Impression upon my Mind is that he said there had not.
That at the Time he examined her he could not discover that there had been any thing very serious?
Yes.

Did you collect that there was not any thing very serious at that Time, or that there had not been any thing very serious previous to that Time?
I understood him to confine himself to the Time of his Examination of course.
Did he speak, from what appeared from his Examination, as to what had been, or what was then existing?
What was then existing, I think.
Did he say there never had been a Prolapsus Uteri?
No; I have not said that, I think.
1110 *Did he say any thing about Prolapsus Uteri?*
I think he did.
What did he say?
That it had been very trifling.
That there was no Prolapsus Uteri at the Time he examined her?
I do not recollect his having stated that exactly.
Did you ever hear Mr. Ruddock say it was so great an Injury as to be irrecoverable?
Yes, certainly.
"hat her Case was irremediable, and must render the Remainder of her Existence miserable to herself and intolerably offensive to those around her"
Yes, I have.
He has stated that to you?
He has. At the Time I attended this Woman I sat, I suppose within a Foot of her, close to her Bedside; I have very often in the Course of my Life attended Persons in Disease, and I never observed a Case where there was less disagreeable Smell, indeed there was none whatever, the Woman was as clean and comfortable as she possibly could be.
Mrs. Pope frequently visited her after that?
Not frequently, but she visited her.
Did she make the same Observation?
Certainly.
Have you observed the working of the new Poor Law in your Parish?
I have.
What is the Result of your Opinion in consequence of that Observation? Has any Improvement in the labouring Classes taken place?
I do not know that any Improvement has taken place. I think there is too much Discretion given to the Guardians; I have heard it said that they have not Discretion enough, but I find they have too much in my own Parish.
You constantly reside in Nether Stowey?

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I do.

You are well acquainted with your Parishioners?

Yes.

It is an agricultural Parish?

Yes.

Do you employ any Labourers?

I do.

Have you observed that the Labourers are more diligent and more civil or otherwise, or that there is no Change whatever?

I have not observed any great Change; I find there are many able - bodied Paupers receiving Relief in my Parish, and there has been more Relief given to able - bodied Labourers than I remember when I served the Office of Overseer some Years ago.

You do not think the Law has been sufficiently carried out in the Parish to enable you to judge of its Effects?

Exactly; we have now Six or Seven able - bodied Labourers receiving Out door Relief.

Have they large Families?

They are now in full Employment.

At what Wages?

7s. and 8s. a Week, their Wives earning Money, and their Children earning Money. I made a Complaint last Week to one of our Guardians and the Relieving Officer, and said, that if they persisted in giving Relief to those able bodied Labourers I should certainly feel it my Duty to write to the Board of Guardians.

1111 *Have they large Families, or are there any particular Circumstances about those People which afford a Reason for their being relieved out of the Parochial Funds?*

I do not know of any Reason why they should be relieved. If it was stated to them that Relief would not be given to them they would be able to do for themselves, and I think if it was held out that instead of receiving Parochial Relief they should go into the House they would immediately give it up.

Have not you a Guardian of your Parish?

We have.

Why do not you represent that to him?

I have; he is a Farmer, and has not Time to attend the Board so regularly as he ought to do, and he is at the present Moment unwell.

What is his Name?

Farthing.

Is 8s. the common Rate of Wages?

7s. and 8s.

Have you any Magistrates living in your Parish?

Not at the present Moment. Before the Time that Charlotte Allen was unwell we had a very active one, Mr. Poole. If he had been living the Case of Charlotte Allen would never have been heard of, I believe.

You were at Stowey in the latter End of 1836 and the early Part of 1837?

I have been living there the last Twelve Years.

Did you hear of any violent infectious Complaint raging in the Workhouse at Bridgwater at that Time?

No, I did not.

Do you think such a Thing could have happened as a violent infectious Complaint having raged in the Workhouse at Bridgwater without your hearing of it at Stowey?

It could not have happened, I think.

Were the People of your Parish usually going to the Board of Guardians at this Time?

Yes.

Did you ever hear them express any Dread of going into the Workhouse, from the Fear of catching this infectious Complaint?

Never.

Did any of your Parishioners, who had been in the Workhouse, return to the Parish?

I recollect One Woman particularly, she said that she was so comfortable she would not leave it on any account.

At what Time did she go?

As soon as the new Law came into operation.

Did you ever visit her in that House?

No.

Did you ever go to the old Workhouse at Bridgwater yourself?

No.

How far is Nether Stowey from Bridgwater?

Between Seven and Eight Miles.

Have you constant Intercourse with Bridgwater?

I go there almost every Thursday to Market.

You never heard of this infectious Disease prevailing in the Workhouse?

Never till I heard of Mr. Bowen's Pamphlet.

Did you never hear of there being Diarrhæa in the House?

I never heard it till I saw it in Mr. Bowen's Pamphlet and the Times News. paper. I go nearly every Thursday, and sometimes Two or Three Times a Week, to Bridgwater.

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1112 *Have you much Intercourse with the Inhabitants of Bridgwater? Could it be to the Extent that the Women would not attend as Nurse without your having beard of it, in your Opinion?*

Certainly not, I should say.

Are you acquainted with Mr. Ruddock the Clergyman?

Very intimately.

Have you had frequent Intercourse with him?

Not frequent.

Did you occasionally see him about that Period?

Yes. He never spoke to you about this dreadful Infection?,

Certainly not.

Are you acquainted with Mr. Frederick Axford, the Doctor's Brother?

No.

Do you know Mr. Baker?

I do know him; his Son lives in my Parish.

Did you ever hear him talk of this?

I never have been in the habit of talking much with him.

Who is your Medical Man?

Mr. Jonathan Toogood.

Had he Occasion to visit you during this Period?

Not at that Period professionally I think.

Did you occasionally see him?

Very often.

He never told you of this dreadful Malady prevailing?

Not till after the Pamphlet.

The Account never reached you in any way of this Matter till after the Pamphlet appeared?

No.

You never heard a Complaint of the Work house being crowded?

No.

The Witness is directed to withdraw.

Ordered, That this Committee be adjourned to Monday next , Twelve o'Clock.