

THE ZOIST.

No. XXI.

APRIL, 1848.

- I. Report by Dr. ELLIOTSON upon "*A Record of Cases treated in the Mesmeric Hospital, from November, 1846, to May, 1847, with the Reports of the Official Visitors. Printed by Order of Government, Calcutta. W. Ridsdale, Military Orphan Press, 1847.*"

THE official visitors were,—

R. M. M. THOMPSON, Esq.
D. STEWART, Esq., M.D.
J. JACKSON, Esq., F.R.C.S.
F. J. MOUAT, Esq., M.D.
R. O'SHAUGNESSY, Esq., F.R.C.S.

I shall give an account first of the surgical operations, and then of the medical cases, of the whole period, and not the whole practice of each successive month, as is properly done in the Report. I formerly received the first monthly report of the surgical operations performed by Dr. Esdaile, and it appeared in *The Zoist* for last July. On referring to No. XVII. one operation will be found to have been the removal of an immense cancerous breast, weighing 7 lbs., from a woman, and five removals of those tumors so common among men in India, one tumor weighing 30 lbs., one 40 lbs., and one 100 lbs.; one being small, and one spoken of only as "one of the usual tumors;" the patients all appear to have done well. In regard to the woman, two thirds of the tumor were removed *without her moving or appearing to feel*; but she then woke up and seemed to recover her senses before the operation was finished: no restraint at all was required during this, but immediately afterwards she became very violent. The man, whose tumor weighed 30 lbs. and the removal of which was tedious and severe, *lay motionless* till about the middle of the operation, when he awoke and was quite aroused before it was over.

The man whose tumor weighed 40 lbs. shewed *not the slightest shrinking from the knife or the smallest movement of the trunk or lower extremities*, but made an indistinct moaning when the chord was cut across, and yet remained *passive and motionless* while the arteries were tying. The man whose tumor weighed 100 lbs. cried out and shewed other signs of suffering *about the middle of the operation*, but his exclamations were unintelligible and *had no evident reference* to his situation at the time; and he remained asleep for four hours, and knew nothing of the operation or any occurrence which had taken place since he was mesmerised to sleep 16 hours before. The man whose tumor was small exhibited signs of pain *towards the end* of the operation, though on awaking he was ignorant of all that had passed.

These patients were mesmerised in a cool month, and therefore not naked as in hot weather, but under two blankets and a sheet, with only their faces exposed. Having been tested in the mesmerising room, they were carried on their beds into the operating room through which *a current of the north wind blew*; and that every movement of the body might be seen, they were exposed *stark naked* to the spectators. "I remarked on several occasions," says Dr. Esdaile, "that a deep inspiration, and other involuntary movements immediately followed this exposure of the body to the cold air, although the persons had a moment before been quite indifferent to the loudest noises, pricking and pinching. The demesmerising influence of cold, when artificially applied, was familiar to me, as will be seen in my *Mesmerism in India*, and it will appear surprizing that I should not have been more on my guard against it as a *natural agent*. I can only plead in extenuation, the stupifying influence of a successful routine; but failures, when improved, are often more instructive than complete success. I suspected that *cold* was the secret enemy at work, and lost no time in determining the point by actual experiments." The man who is said only to have had one of the usual tumors was mesmerised and rendered so insensible of pain that a boil discovered on one of his arms had a conical incision made in it *without his shrinking in the least*.

"He was then carried under the blankets, and his bed placed in the north door of the hospital; the blankets and sheet were suddenly pulled off, and he was exposed naked to the cold air; in about two minutes he shivered all over, his breathing became disturbed, and he clutched right and left for the bed-clothes, but still sleeping; they were supplied to him, and he huddled himself up under them with the greatest satisfaction, still sleeping however. The bed was then carried back to the mesmerising room, and he was artificially

awoke. He had slept profoundly without a dream, he said, and awoke this moment from feeling cold. When shewn the wound in his arm, he was greatly surprized, and shewed the usual signs of pain, saying, that he had struck the boil against something in his sleep, he supposed, and it had burst.

"Dec. 28th. The magnetic machine awoke him to-day on the second application.

"Dec. 29th. He was more deeply affected to-day, and lay unmoved for several minutes in the open air; he then shuddered all over, his breathing became irregular, and he immediately awoke into the full possession of his senses: the cold had awoke him, he said.

"Dec. 30th. *I covered the wound in his arm with nitric acid to-day; the flesh became instantly white, but he did not shrink in the least: a pin was also thrust through the flesh between his fingers, and left there, of course without his minding it.* He was then exposed in the northern doorway, and awoke in less than a minute after being exposed to the air. The cold awoke him, he said.

"The pin sticking between his fingers greatly perplexed him, and he drew it out, expressing as much pain as most people would do on having it stuck into them. The whitened sore on his arm was now shewn to him, and he immediately exhibited signs of the greatest pain, as people always do when any raw surface comes in contact with the mineral acids; the pain was so severe that I ordered his arm to be fomented with warm water.

"A stove was ordered for the operation room."

The effect of having the room properly warmed was, that the mesmeric state continued and the operation was rendered painless.

"Dec. 31st. The room being agreeably heated to-day, I proceeded to operate on him in the presence of numerous spectators, exposing only the diseased surface. The operation was very severe and tedious from the hardness of the diseased mass and its adhering closely to the delicate organs below, which were all saved. *No sound escaped the man, there was not the slightest shrinking under the knife,* and the only movements observed, I was told, were some slight contractions of the toes and forehead.

"He awoke in about ten minutes after all the arteries were tied, as if from a natural sleep, stretched himself well, complained that he felt his thighs and arms stiff, and seeing his *bhai*, Bogobun Doss, he asked him to shampoo them for him. He had slept very well, he said, nothing had disturbed him, and he felt no pain in the part. The wound was at last shewn to him, and he expressed the greatest horror and alarm, exclaiming that it pained him excessively. After a while, I asked him if Bogobun Doss had told him the truth. 'Oh! yes,' he answered, 'it was done exactly as he described.'

"Dr. Dickens from Cuttack, visited the hospital a few days after, and was recognized by Mothoor.

"After telling him all about it, he confidentially asked, 'But how did the Dr. Sahib do it?'"

The discovery, by Dr. Esdaile, that insensibility to pain from mechanical causes does not necessarily imply insensibility to cold, is one which presented itself to my notice in 1841, in regard to both heat and cold. In mesmerising Miss Rosina Barber, cured by me of severe epilepsy, and well up to the present moment, and now married, I found that, though in her mesmeric sleep-waking she was insusceptible to pain from mechanical causes up to her collar bones,—a limitation of *anæsthesia* that has occurred in other of my patients, she was every where susceptible of feeling temperature.

“Though she never gave the least sign of sensation, however mechanically injured within the limits mentioned, she had an exquisite sense of temperature throughout her frame, but not more in the face than in her arms and hands. Not merely did cold or hot substances, when applied to her hands for example, give an immediate sensation; but even when held at a small distance, so that nothing could be ascribed to contact. Her sensibility to cold was indeed extreme: if the weather was cool, she would shudder as soon as she was asleep, and require a shawl, though previously she had not complained of cold: and contact of anything cold made her shudder distressingly. And this I have noticed in other cases, in which the loss of common feeling (*anæsthesia*) existed. The same peculiarity may exist in ordinary palsy, but it is not noticed, because not examined into:—a part is pinched and does not feel, and therefore is presumed to have no kind of feeling.*

The same occurred in Miss Abbot, also cured by me, in 1843, of Epilepsy, well up to the present moment, and now married.

“She was perfectly insensible to mechanical injury throughout her body, except the face, and even in it, for the breadth of half an inch of its circumference, where it joins the ears and hairy part of the head; so that any surgical operation could have been performed upon her, even while conversing most rationally with us, and, except upon the face, not been noticed by her: and a seton was introduced into the back of her neck, and I on two subsequent occasions used great violence to the wound in order to make it discharge, without giving her the least sensation; as I described at length in No. V., pp. 108, 9, which account I must request the reader to peruse, as it contains several interesting particulars. Yet, as I have noticed in so many cases of insensibility to mechanical injury, she was highly sensible of temperature, and cold things applied any where annoyed her greatly.”†

“For the last four years she had been subject to sleep-waking in the form of somnambulism. She would rise in her sleep in the dark, no light having access to her room, dress herself completely, lacing her stays and boots, and fastening the back parts of her dress. Once

* *Zoist* No. VI., p. 209.

† *Zoist*, No. IX., p. 59.

she took out and put on a new boa, which was locked up, and the lock had been so spoiled that she had tried in vain to unlock it when awake. She sometimes took out clean linen, which she must have picked out from a quantity, and did various things which her mother is perfectly certain she could not do with her eyes shut when awake.

“She thus often found herself dressed on the bed when she awoke in the morning, though she had undressed and got into bed and gone to sleep at bed time. Now and then, though rarely, she would wake when only half dressed. Not unfrequently she walked down stairs, —one, two, or three pairs. Sometimes she would walk down undressed, and was often awakened by the *coldness of the painted sides of the stairs beyond the carpet on either side, or of the floor-cloth in the passage.*”*

The employment of ether and chloroform is now making the medical profession acquainted with the phenomena of the mesmeric sleep-waking, and will inevitably lead them to devote all the attention we can desire to mesmerism.† Among the other phenomena from ether and chloroform that are analogous to those of mesmerism, has occasionally been noticed sensibility to temperature when there was insensibility to mechanical injury, so that the surgeon’s cold hand has annoyed a cabinet minister, and a draught of cold air annoyed another patient, while the knife gave no pain. A mesmeric patient who gave no sign of pain under incisions, but shrunk from something cold accidentally touching him, would in England have been at once pronounced an impostor. In etherized patients the occurrence was considered striking, but begat no injurious suspicions. The fact of sensibility to temperature remaining not very rarely, after the loss of sensibility to cutting, pinching, &c., in paralysis, would not have remained unthought of to the present moment by nearly all medical men, had the pages of *The Zoist* been studied as they deserve to be, and will one day be, by the medical world, and the fact been learnt of artificial *anæsthesia* being often accompanied by a perfect feeling of temperature. Dr. Esdaile gives us no reason to suppose that he was aware of my observations, and the facts mentioned by him in regard to the impression of cold in the mesmeric sleep-waking have the greater force. Mesmerists have always known the effect of blowing upon or fanning mesmerised patients in dissipating sleep, and this takes place even though pinching their faces is not felt; and this was

* In disease when there is no morbid sensibility of touch, nay, when sensibility of touch is lost, there is sometimes morbid sensibility of cold or heat, so that Dr. Darwin suggested that there must be distinct nerves for temperature. (*Zoonomia*, Sect. xiv. 6.) see my *Human Physiology*, p. 419.

† See my Paper on the *Conversion of the Medical World to the duty of preventing Surgical Pain.*—*Zoist*, No. XVI., p. 581; also No. XVII., p. 44.

known to Dr. Esdaile.* Nay, the continued contraction of a muscle, as when the jaw is obstinately closed, in mesmeric patients, is often at once removed by the application of a cold substance, though the patient be insensible of pain from mechanical causes.†

In some cases there is equal insensibility of temperature and of mechanical injury. Elizabeth Okey did not feel cutting, so that a seton was put in her neck, as in Miss Abbot's, without her knowledge, and she held live coals and put her fingers into the fire without feeling; in Miss Abbot there was sensibility of heat only when intense; whether a frozen substance also would have been felt I do not know. I need scarcely remark that in testing a patient to ascertain whether sensibility is sufficiently destroyed for a surgical operation to be commenced, we should not have recourse to the application of substances of high or low temperatures, as was sometimes done in India; but to pinching, pricking, &c., since a patient may wince from heat or cold, and yet be quite insensible to mechanical injury.‡

This is an opportunity for stating the greater mesmeric susceptibility of persons, and the greater power of mesmerisers, if the respective party is warm. The apartment, the two parties, and the mesmerising hand, should be comfortably warm. Patients have frequently assured me that the effect of my passes was much less when my hand was cold, though I felt elsewhere warm and comfortable. All the susceptibilities and powers of a living frame, even the power of thinking, are lessened by much cold.

Although care be taken that cold do not rouse the patient, the sleep-waking may become exhausted; and, to prevent the return of sensibility to the knife before the operation is completed, mesmeric means should be steadily employed till the patient is put to bed. Passes may be still made, as is Dr. Esdaile's usual course, or the palms of the mesmeriser's two

* *Mesmerism in India and its Practical Application in Surgery and Medicine*, by James Esdaile, M.D., p. 165; London, 1846. A medical man would learn from this neglected work far more than from any one of the professional works which are noticed in reviews and made the subject of conversation.

† *Zoist*, No. IX., p. 57.

‡ I must be excused for mentioning the importance of taking care that patients having surgical operations performed upon them be kept warm; an extremely low temperature of course prevents all sensation, but a considerable coldness short of this aggravates the pain of injuries. We all know the greater intensity of pain if we accidentally strike any part when it is very cold, than when it is comfortably warm. A surgical operation performed upon a cold patient in a cold room must be all the more agonizing; yet I have seen persons operated upon in the depth of winter in large theatres destitute of any provision for warmth.

hands kept in contact with the forehead or some other part of the face or head; or the points of two fingers be kept in contact with the upper eyelid upon the ball of the eye, or the point of a finger be kept upon the tip of the nose or upon the chin. I learnt this extreme susceptibility of the eyes and the tip of the nose in many persons, from my study of the cases of the Okeys, in whom it was remarkable. If the reader turns to the beautiful and wonderful case of Miss Rosina Barber, which is recorded in Vol. II., p. 194, of *The Zoist*, and is a fine study for any one desirous of learning mesmerism: he will find that she had a great disposition to wake from her mesmeric sleep-waking during its early stage, and that I deepened her state by placing the points of my fingers upon her eyes. I remarked that

“It was common for her to place her arms side by side in her lap and cross her knees very soon after going to sleep, and awake in five or ten minutes unless I deepened her sleep:—a thing done by holding her hands, or especially by placing the points of the fingers upon her eyes. Her arms would then slowly relax, separate, and drop at her sides, and the knee which was upon the other would fall off. There is usually no surer mode of deepening sleep than to establish contact with the patient. Laying the hand upon the forehead or any other part, placing the points of the fingers on the eyes, or the tip of the nose, or the points of the fingers upon the points of his fingers, all are powerful in deepening and producing sleep. The more extensive the contact the greater in general the effect. An occult soporific power over others exists clearly in the animal frame. In the excitement of active sleep-waking, contact gradually reduces the excitement and deep sleep comes on. The Okeys in their delirious sleep-waking were often so susceptible that, if they laid a hand upon my shoulder, or if sitting on the ground they rested their head against my leg while I was writing, they were presently lost in sleep. Generally the pointed parts of the body, as the bent knuckles and still more the tips of the fingers, the chin and still more the point of the nose, are more efficacious than an equal portion of flat surface. There may be for a time a peculiar susceptibility of a certain part. I have often known touching the point of the patient's nose with the tip of my finger produce instant sleep for a period. The phenomena of this kind in the Okeys were endless, and all have presented themselves to me again and again in other cases. The absurdity of trying to explain mesmeric sleep by monotonous impression on the senses, or by fatigue or over straining, and of not seeing clearly that there are occult powers not recognized by the medical world, is glaring (*supra*, p. 53), no less so than the attempt to explain certain phenomena by currents of air and other common impressions on ordinary sense. Water, mesmerised by passes over it, and even by pointing at it, is often powerfully soporific, and produces as it did in the Okeys, instant depth of sleep in the mesmeric state.”

If the patient is susceptible of rigidity from mesmerism, the most powerful method is to place a strong magnet or a large crystal in contact with his hands or face. I have found that in such subjects rigidity is very generally induced by those bodies, and even in the waking state and mesmeric sleep-waking induced: although on those in whom mesmeric means do not induce rigidity, or induce only catalepsy, magnets and crystals have not this power. These observations I communicated a year ago,* and have verified them up to the present moment.

In the following case the operation, though not possible without pain in the cold, was performed in a warm apartment without any suffering, and the history exhibits in a striking point of view the power of mesmerism over inflammation.

“Chand Khan, aged 35, has got the same complaint. We commenced mesmerising him on the 8th December, and on the 25th he was insensible to pricking, &c.

“December 27th. He was carried on his bed, under the blankets, to the north door. I called upon him loudly by name, and plucked a pinch of hair out of his moustache without disturbing him. I then drew off the bedclothes; in less than a minute he shivered, sighed deeply, like a person after a shower bath, and eagerly sought for the bedding, straining his eyelids to open them, but in vain. He soon after awoke from the cold, he said.

“December 28th. Again exposed to the cold air, after inflicting different tests of sensibility. After shivering, and seeking for covering, as yesterday, but finding none, he rolled himself up like a hedge-hog, and tried to make the most of it, but soon awoke, and from the cold, he said.

“December 30th. Acted precisely the same as yesterday.

“December 31st. I stuck a pin into his nose, and left it there a moment, before drawing off the bedding. He awoke exactly as he had done on former days, and from the same cause, cold.

“When getting up he rubbed his nose against the bed, and the pin fell out to his great surprize.

“After he got up, I gently pricked his nose with the pin, which he resented as much as any one in the company would have done.

“Next day, he was operated on without knowing anything about it, and although the operation was not the formidable one expected, it was very curious, and will be related next month.”

“RADICAL CURE OF HYDROCELE.

“*January 1st.* Chand Khan, one of the men experimented on last month, to ascertain the effect of cold on the mesmeric sleep, was exposed to-day to have his tumor carefully examined.

* *Zoist*, No. XIV., p. 278.

It was found that the greater part of the swelling was watery, arising from hydrocele, and did not require, at present, the formidable operation of excision. The tumor was tapped, and the usual stimulating injection thrown in, without a sign of sensibility appearing. After a considerable time, he awoke spontaneously, said nothing had disturbed him, and felt no pain anywhere. He was desired to sit up and shew the part, and he was much surprized to see the bed wet, and the diminished size of the tumor. The hole made by the trocar was pointed out to him, and it was suggested that the bag had probably burst when he was asleep, and he seemed to consider this a likely solution of the problem. But it is for the Physiological History of such cases that this is related, and not as an example of insensibility under the knife, for the operation is only a prick. Every medical man knows, however, that the first contact of the acrid injection with the spermatic nerves, causes very considerable, and often very great pain, which is propagated to the loins. Now, in all the cases in which I have operated, and they amount to about a dozen, this first pain has never been felt, and the patient only begins to feel pain in about 10 hours after, when the artificial inflammation commences.

“But this is not all that is to be learned from this simple operation. In five or six days, when the fever has subsided that usually ensues, it will be found that the patient is very easily entranced again. The inflamed part is still very tender, and the least pressure causes great pain, but in the trance the parts can be rudely handled and severely pressed, without eliciting a vestige of sensibility, after which, however, it returns in all its natural intensity the moment the trance is dissipated. This disease is so common that every medical man can find plenty of cases for actual experiment; and in the presence of candid observers, I would willingly rest the proof of the reality and power of mesmerism on the frequent exhibition of these phenomena alone. Having witnessed the frequent suspension of artificial inflammation by the trance, I was led to infer the possibility of subduing natural inflammation by it. Soon after ascertaining the above facts, a case of natural inflammation of both testes occurred, and was completely extinguished by keeping the man in the trance for 24 hours, with very short intervals of waking. I only mention this to shew what *can be done* under the most favorable circumstances, when a person is sensible to the influence to the necessary degree, and this brings me to the subject.”

" HYPERTROPHIA SCROTI.

" *December 3rd, 1846.*—Baboo Nundkishore Roy, the Book-keeper of Messrs. Lattey, Brothers and Co., Calcutta. He has got the usual tumor, about the size of a man's head. It commenced 16 years ago with hydrocele, but has been stationary for many years, and is only a local encumbrance. He is a large robust man, and enjoys perfect health.

" On the 7th February, I considered him to be fit for the knife, and invited several gentlemen to be present, but unluckily, just as he was going to sleep, the pipe of the stove fell upon his bed with a terrible clatter. He got up in great alarm, and for 24 hours afterwards, could neither sleep naturally nor mesmerically. Just as he was going to sleep, he started up in great dread, thinking that the roof was falling in upon him, and his case had to be recommenced. It took us as much time more to bring him back to the state he was in at the time of the accident. There is often a simple, but very curious and characteristic symptom observed in mesmeric sleepers, and in this man it was very marked. He snored loudly for about ten days in his sleep, and then his respiration became noiseless and tranquil, like a sleeping child's. I have now seen about 200 persons in the trance, and do not recollect an instance in which the natural snoring was not extinguished as the influence deepened, and the physiological cause of this is very evident to those who have had the necessary opportunities of observation. In natural sleep, the semi-voluntary muscles of respiration continue to act after all the voluntary muscles have gone to rest, and the first invasion of mesmeric sleep cannot be distinguished from natural slumber.

" But as the influence deepens, the semi-voluntary muscles gradually partake of the general condition of the muscular system, whether it be rigidity, catalepsy, or flaccidity; and this state is often so complete, that not a trace of thoracic movement can be seen above the pit of the stomach; the respiration is carried on by the diaphragm and abdominal muscles, and the breathing often sinks from 24 respirations in the minute to 16. Inspiration and expiration are therefore performed more slowly and less forcibly, and as a natural consequence *snoring* disappears, even when the chest is not quite motionless. This is so practical an observation, that I never think of testing the sensibility of snoring sleepers.

" *30th.* He has slept daily for a fortnight, and snores loudly, but awakes on being pricked and called by name.

" *31st.* The room was heated to-day for the first time, and the mesmeric sleep was well established; the snoring has ceased.

"Jan. 4th, 1847. He bore the lower power of the electro-magnet to-day for three minutes, and then awoke.

"5th. Severely pricked, and racked by the magnetic machine for three minutes; he then began to roll about, and soon after awoke, spontaneously, he said.

"6th. He appears to be capable of bearing the knife to-day.

"7th. Invited several gentlemen to witness the operation to-day, but just as he was going to sleep, the funnel of the stove fell with a great crash across the foot of his bed, and frightened him terribly.

"10th. Has not been able to sleep all last night; whenever he was falling off, he awoke with a sudden start, thinking that the roof was falling in upon him, and this nervousness still continues to-day.

"He cannot be put to sleep.

"26th. This man's case had to be begun again from the date of the funnel falling on him, but he is again well advanced towards insensibility.

"Feb. 2nd. Being found insensible to pricking, both his legs with the thighs were raised up in the air and thrown down on the charpaie several times, *ac testis admodum comprimebatur* without disturbing him in the least.

"3rd. He was deaf to the loudest noises and calling, but he appeared to be disturbed *teste compresso*.

"4th. He was very deeply entranced; a large brass basin was twice thrown down on the stone floor close to his bed, causing a very great noise without rousing him; his body was pricked all over for about four minutes, *ac testis multum comprimebatur* with no more effect.

"He has a great objection to be operated on in the Hospital, and I told him that I was about to do it now, if he did not object: silence seemed to give consent.

"5th. The same repeated to-day with like results. As another security, I sent for carb. of ammon. and applied it to his nose. This disturbed him somewhat, without awaking him: after he awoke and had dressed himself, I put the bottle of carb. of ammon. to his nose which was as disagreeable to him as to me. He was asked if he had ever smelt this before; he said, it was like smelling salts, but that he had never smelt it before in the Hospital.

"6th. I operated on him to-day, in the presence of numerous persons, among them were Dr. Thompson, Dr. Mouat, and Mr. R. O'Shaughnessy. His pulse on several occasions had been counted in the trance, and was found to be always 120; it was so to-day, but his natural pulse is 80. I cut at

once down upon the testis dexter to ascertain its state : it was involved in a large hydrocele, and was much enlarged and adherent to the sac ; it was therefore let alone, and after freeing the testis sinister cum pene, it was removed along with the general mass, which weighed about 16 lbs.

“ His crura were separated, and placed one on each side of a chair ; as usual, no one held him. *I was told* that the operation lasted $4\frac{1}{2}$ minutes, and I was not conscious of the slightest quiver in the man's whole body all the time. *The only thing that distinguished him from a corpse*, was his breathing becoming disturbed about the end of the operation, but it very soon became quite tranquil again. This, which is frequently seen, arises, I presume, from an instinctive effort of the lungs and heart to accommodate themselves to the altered state of the circulation. The pulse, *I was told*, remained unchanged till the fall of the mass ; it then sunk to 85, and when he awoke it had settled at 58.

“ After the arteries were tied, his mesmeriser was desired to desist, and he awoke spontaneously, just about his usual time daily. In reply to questions put to him, he said that he had slept very well ; had not been in any way disturbed, not even by a dream ; that he felt no pain any where, and was not weaker than usual ; upon saying this, he prepared to get up as usual, but I laid my hand upon his shoulder, and desired him to lie still, and listen to what I said. I told him, that although he had been led to expect that he should be operated on at home, I did not think it proper to comply with his wishes, as it might make him anxious and watchful, and so defeat our object, and that finding him in a fit state, I had taken the opportunity to operate on him here. He started with surprize, and was about to examine the part, but I begged him not to do so, as it would bring on pain which he had not yet felt, and accordingly, he said, “ *I now feel a burning about the part.*” In conclusion, he was asked if it was true that people could be cut up in their sleep without knowing it, and he replied, ‘It seems so.’ Shortly after, some vessels required to be tied, and he showed more than the usual signs of pain during the process.

“ *7th.* He has had no pain in the part since the first half hour after he awoke : has had some pain in the loins since the evening, which increased at night, preventing his rest ; had a slight fever at 8 p. m., no motion.

“ He was feverish for a week. The fever gradually left him by the occasional use of laxatives and quinine. The wound now appears very healthy ; and is rapidly contracting. He now sits up in his bed and walks about ; he eats well, and is daily getting strength.”

“ HYPERTROPHIA SCROTI.

“ *January 9th, 1847.* Manoo, a bearer, aged 35, has come from Cuttack, a distance of 200 miles, in consequence of having learned from one of his friends that he had undergone an operation at Hooghly without being put to pain. This is another example of a healthy man being reduced to the most intense degree of insensibility. He is an active, hardy looking man, and has travelled 10 days consecutively, at the rate of 20 miles a day, and the majority of patients operated on since I came to Calcutta, have been men in apparently good health. If they cost us more than the usual trouble, our success is the more satisfactory, on account of the difficulties to be overcome.

“ This man was very speedily subdued, and might have been operated upon on the 4th or 5th day, but for a peculiarity in his mesmeric condition that I observed, and which I greatly wished to understand, or at least get rid of. Although he was strikingly cataleptic, and bore with perfect indifference the electro-magnetic shocks for many minutes, and could be pricked all over without awaking him; yet on attempting to draw him down to the end of the bed on his mattress, he often awoke instantaneously into the full possession of his senses. Raising his legs and letting them fall suddenly on the bed, awoke him in the same manner. I regret to say, that I have not been able to account for this peculiarity of his mesmeric constitution, but we succeeded in extinguishing it by prolonged treatment. Every practical mesmerist is aware of such singular anomalies, and that the patient may be able to bear severe pain of one description, although he is awake by apparently inferior disturbing causes. If their weak point is noted and avoided, the necessary liberties may often be safely taken with them with impunity, and I might have disposed of this man at a very early period, if I had not wished to reserve him for experiment and observation.

“ The case of the Baboo is an illustration of this; the day before the operation, he was annoyed by the fumes of ammonia, but this did not prevent me from operating on him next day, without testing him with ammonia, and *he lay like a corpse throughout*. Manoo has got the usual tumor, but of a small size, rendering the organs useless, however: to be mesmerised.

“ *10th.* Slept for a few minutes only.

“ *11th.* He appeared to be in a profound natural sleep.

“ *12th.* He was partially affected, arms cataleptic; not disturbed on being handled freely.

"13th. He was found entranced, perfectly cataleptic. He was insensible to pricking.

"14th. He slept a little, and was roused when called.

"15th. He was deeply entranced, a pin was thrust into his hand and left there, on awaking he was confounded to find the pin in his flesh.

"16th. He was placed under the action of the electro-magnetic machine. It produced convulsive movements of his hands; he stood it well for several minutes. From his exhibiting slight movements of the face, the machine was removed, and soon after, he awoke, and when asked, said that nothing had disturbed him in his sleep.

"17th. He stood the action of the machine for about three minutes.

"18th. He awoke on the mattress on which he lay, being carried down to the bottom of the charpaie.

"21st. He was found perfectly entranced; and was subjected to the action of the electro-magnetic apparatus, which he bore for about three minutes without the central magnet, and with it, for a minute. It only produced strong convulsive movements of his arms. He was then pulled down on his mattress to the bottom of the charpaie; the mesmeric process being carried on. Both crura being supported on two chairs, the tumor was exposed, testesque multum manu tractati sunt. Pilis abrasis, the part was covered with a sheet. He was then pulled back to his usual sleeping position, and awoke some time after on my opening his eye; nothing had disturbed him, but this.

"22nd. Being found insensible it was attempted to drag him down to the bottom of his charpaie, but while it was being done, he awoke.

"23rd. He awoke to-day on a piece of live coal being put into his hand.

"Feb. 5th. Mesmerising was intermitted for nine days, on account of the patient being attacked with fever and diarrhœa, —astringent and febrifuge medicines were prescribed for him.

"6th. He was found well, the process was recommenced, and he slept profoundly, and was roused by a coolly touching his body somewhat rudely.

"7th. He awoke on his nipple being severely pinched.

"10th. He was subjected to the action of the electro-magnetic machine for several minutes, testesque multum comprimebantur without awaking him. The above was done in the presence of His Highness the Nabob of Moorshedabad, Mr. Torrens, Dr. Grant, and several other Mahomedan and European gentlemen.

"11th. He was very deeply entranced to-day, his legs were raised in the air and thrown down on the charpaie several times, et testes admodum comprimebantur. He was completely insensible.

"12th. He awoke on being pricked.

"13th. He bore several tests of insensibility well, but awoke on a bit of live charcoal being put on his ancle.

"14th. He was put to sleep on a charpaie that divides in the middle, and allows the lower part to be taken away without disturbing his trunk. Both his legs being lifted up, the lower half of the bed was removed and his legs were then placed on two chairs; the tumor was exposed, and a hydrocele found in the left side was punctured, and a large quantity of serum let out. The testis sinister was examined and severely squeezed without disturbing him. The bed was re-adjusted, and he was left to sleep. He awoke about 15 minutes after, and said, when questioned, that nothing had disturbed him in his sleep. He was confounded when the sheet, on which he lay, was pointed out to him wetted with blood and water, he said it was not so before he fell asleep. As desired, he handled and looked at his tumor and was surprized to find its bulk much reduced. He said it was much larger when he went to bed. The opening of the puncture was shown to him, and he was told that the tumor had probably burst of itself, and the water and blood escaped through the opening. All this, he said, might have been the case, but he was perfectly unaware of what had happened, for he was fast asleep."

"15th. Considering him to be fit for the knife, the lower half of the charpaie was removed, and his legs were supported by two chairs; his arms were less cataleptic than usual, and he started when comprimebatur testis in the punctured side; he said, on awaking, that there was multum doloris in teste. The inflammation must be allowed to subside.

"16th. Arms perfectly cataleptic, respiration abdominal; a very slight motion of the floating and two false ribs was observed; testis sanus compressus est severely several times; an attempt was made to lift him up from the charpaie while asleep, and in the act of doing so, he awoke.

"17th. He was insensible to external impressions, but awoke when his mesmeriser attempted to open his eyes.

"18th. The morbid part and his thighs were pricked all over for about two minutes, and arcte compressus est testis several times; during all this there was no indication of feeling. He awoke the moment he was dragged by the leg.

"19th. Having placed him in the proper position for the operation, we went over all that was done the previous day;

a large brass basin was thrown down on the stone floor several times without awaking him; but when we came back to him, after having tested the other patients lying in the same room, and rang the basin with a stick close to his ear, he awoke.

"20th. He was operated on to-day in the presence of some fifty persons, Europeans and natives. The *colis cum testibus* were dissected out of the diseased mass in the usual way, and were all saved.

"The patient being a cataleptic subject, *his arms were placed erect in the air before I commenced, and they remained rigidly fixed in this attitude till he awoke, a quarter of an hour after the operation was finished. There was not the slightest shrinking under the knife, or movement of the body, and no sound escaped from the patient.* I was told that some slight contractions in the legs and fingers were observed, and the motions of the larynx were at one time quickened. In the trance his pulse was 88 for the last two days, but it sunk considerably during the operation, I was told by Dr. Williamson. After the arteries were all tied, his mesmeriser was desired to desist, and the man awoke in his usual sudden way, in about a quarter of an hour after. Baboo Kaseeprosaud Ghose, whose acquirements in English literature are well known, acted as interpreter, and put whatever questions the spectators desired to the patient.

"*The sum of which was, that he had slept well; had not even dreamed, felt no pain in any part of his body, he was just as usual.* He was desired to rise and go away then. He obeyed the order with alacrity, and sat up at once to arrange his cloth before getting out of bed: a stain of blood met his view, which he curiously examined, and said that he knew not how it came there.

"He was now told, that as he was a strong man, we had great difficulty in making him insensible, and that he had better submit to have the operation performed in the common way. He answered, that he was quite ready to have it done just as he sat, if it was my pleasure. The play was then ended, and he was informed that all was over, and contrary to custom, he felt no pain in the part till about ten minutes after he became aware of the fact. Half an hour after, he only felt a little smarting. At this time, I heard one of the medical visitors ask him, '*Bohut durd hai?*' (have you much pain?) he answered, '*Bode hai, Sahib,*' (there is a sensation in the part, or I feel it.)

"21st. He had an attack of fever at night, it came on with shivering and lasted till daybreak. The slight pain in the part soon after left him, and has not again returned. He

was disturbed at night by pain in the loins, but has now none.

"28th. He was attacked with diarrhœa for a few days, which was relieved by opiates. He is now doing well, wound very healthy, testes adherent. There is a tendency to citatrization, his appetite is much improved, several ligatures came off."

" HYPERTROPHIA SCROTI.

" March 20th, 1847. Bhoyrub Doss, a washerman, æt. 43, residing at Dingavanga in Calcutta; has got one of the common tumors for about 16 years. It is about twice the size of a man's head. This is a curious example of elephantiasis affecting only one side of the body: the leg and arm of the left side are much enlarged, and the disease is confined to the left side of the scrotum; so much so, that the raphe separates the diseased from the sound skin: the testis sinister is enlarged, and the skin is very thick and dense over it; but the testis dexter is healthy and the skin natural. His pulse is 98, respiration 18. To be mesmerised daily for an hour and a half.

"21st. Did not sleep to-day.

" He was made to inhale the vapour of sulphuric ether for about an hour with little effect. Half an hour after he commenced inhaling, he began to complain of giddiness, dimness of sight, and became sleepy. He then left off inhaling, and asked leave to lie down. For a few seconds he was insensible to my pricking his leg, but the sensibility of the surface immediately returned, although the inhalation was continued. I have failed in a dozen successive cases since my first successful experiments with ether, and it is clearly not to be depended upon when administered by common inhalers. I have therefore ordered the apparatus used in England to be made, and when ready, it shall be fairly tested.

"22nd. He was partially affected to-day, his arms and legs were lifted up in the air several times, and forcibly thrown down on the bed without any signs of voluntary movements appearing; he did not shrink on being pricked; but on the tumor being thrown up towards the abdomen with a jerk, he awoke.

"24th. He was found perfectly indifferent to all tests of insensibility that he was subjected to; his pulse was 108; respiration 24 in a minute.

"25th. The operation was performed to-day in the presence of a large company of spectators, Europeans and natives. Being satisfied that the testis sinister was diseased, it

was sacrificed without being dissected for, and it was found to have been converted into a sac full of water; *not a tremor was perceptible in the man's whole body from first to last.*

"After he had been cleaned, and covered with a fresh sheet, he was awakened with some difficulty. On being questioned, he was unconscious that any thing had happened to him; *he said that he felt just as usual, and was ready to be operated on now, if I pleased.* Weight of tumor 15 lbs."

" CARTILAGINOUS TUMORS.

"*March 29th, 1847.* Huro, a peasant woman, aged 25, has come from Chinsurah, 25 miles off. Has been suffering from a cartilaginous tumor on the pinna of each ear for about two years; the left one is the largest, and is about 1 lb. weight: there is also a small excrescence inside the right ear. The disease commenced with a warty excrescence caused by boring a hole in each of the ears for wearing ear-rings: she enjoys very good health, and is a remarkable example of natural sensibility to the mesmeric influence. To be mesmerised daily for an hour and a half.

"*30th.* She appeared to be deeply entranced, her limbs were all flexible, and were thrown about rudely without disturbing her. A pin was also put into the tip of her nose and left there for a few seconds and then removed; her jaw was locked, and could be with difficulty partially opened: each ear was rudely handled, and the tumor on the left side was marked with ink to show the outline of the natural cartilage; and all without disturbing her in the least. She could be operated on to-day to any extent, but a careful first examination is so much time and power lost; she was therefore reserved for to-morrow.

"*31st.* The operations were performed to-day, at 12 o'clock, in the presence of a numerous party of Europeans and natives. *The three tumors were very leisurely dissected off, and no one could detect a quiver in the woman's body, or the slightest tremor of her countenance. In about ten minutes after all was over, I awoke her, and she was unconscious that anything had happened till she admired her improved appearance in a looking glass that was given her. She had no pain in the ears till half an hour after she became aware of having been operated on.*"

" HYPERTROPHIA SCROTI.

"*March 25th, 1847.* Sonatun Mahetie, a labourer, aged 32, has come from Budrock, in Zillah Cuttack, and has travelled about 11 miles a day for 14 days. He has got a scrotal

tumor for about 18 years, and one of his legs is afflicted with elephantiasis. The size of the tumor is about three times that of a man's head. His health is considerably impaired. To be mesmerised daily for an hour and a half.

"27th. On the second day he was found fairly under the mesmeric influence, and was not disturbed on being somewhat rudely touched and lightly pricked.

"28th. Sleeping profoundly, limbs flexible, bears them to be violently thrown about without waking.

"29th. The same appearances and results to-day.

"30th. He was deeply entranced; a pin was stuck into the tip of his nose and left there for a few seconds, and then taken out. His tumor was next exposed, a cane was pushed up through the opening of the præputium to the symphysis pubis, pilique abrasi sunt; all without awakening him.

"31st. He did not go to sleep to-day as soon as usual.

"At 12 o'clock when I examined the woman, Huro, who was in the same room with him, he was not entranced, and was moving about uneasily. The spectators were admitted, and for the next half hour the room resembled a fair. Having finished with the woman, I examined Sonatun again, and thought him fit to be operated on. The operation was performed in the usual way, but the testes had to be sacrificed, as they were found to be atrophied and useless; while cutting the cords he struggled considerably, but *his sleep was not broken, and when the mass fell, he relapsed into death-like repose. His mesmeriser was ordered to desist after all the arteries were tied, and all traces of the operation removed. He awoke spontaneously in a quarter of an hour after, and on being questioned said that he had not been disturbed by a dream even.* In about a minute after awaking, he said that he felt some heat in his scrotum, and on carrying his hand to the part, said that he had been cut. Weight of tumor 16 lbs.

"It was not prudent to operate under such circumstances certainly, but I wished to show how irresistible the power is even under the most exciting and unfavourable conditions, when the system has been once deeply affected."

" CALCULUS—LITHOTOMY.

"April 2nd. Bhugeeruth, a husbandman, aged 32, came to my house this morning, complaining of all the symptoms of stone. He has been suffering for two years, and for the last year has been in constant misery. He walks with the greatest pain, seldom sleeps, and when he does, it is by pressing one of his heels into his perineum which gives him some relief. I sounded him, and found a stone; he suffered much, and

complained loudly during the examination. He was desired to go to the hospital.

"3rd. Came to the hospital to-day; the constant state of suffering this man was in made it extremely doubtful whether he could be rendered insensible, but it was resolved to try. To be mesmerised daily for three hours by different persons, one hour each.

"Sleeping profoundly, his arms became cataleptic, and could be thrown about rudely without awaking him: he was insensible to pricking, but was found moving his limbs, and turning his head instinctively; he groaned and shrunk when his right nipple was severely pinched. He awoke about half an hour after his mesmeriser left him.

"4th. He was not conscious to pricking; a sound was gently introduced into the vesica, and the stone detected; he was then brought down to the edge of the table with the mattress, a staff was passed into the vesica and then withdrawn, *deinde pili abrasi sunt*. All the above was done without awaking him, but some convulsive movements were observed in his features. He was then with some difficulty awakened, and when asked, he said that he had not felt anything since he went to sleep.

"5th. His arms were rigid, particularly the left one, and were lying across his breast; a sound was passed into his vesica, and I then immisi digitum in rectum, and the stone was felt. He was then placed in the position used for the operation of lithotomy *without tying his hands and feet as usual*; a staff was next put into the vesica and held in the usual position for a few minutes, it was then withdrawn and he was made to lie down again; nothing had annoyed him, he said when he awoke.

"6th. He was operated on to-day. The mattress with him upon it was pulled down to the edge of the table, and he was placed in the usual attitude for lithotomy; *his arms loosely passed around his legs below the knees; no ligature was used, and I requested him not to be held*. Before commencing, I imprudently pricked him around the anus, which brought on an instinctive contraction of the anus and vesica, followed by the expulsion of the lotium around the staff, but not a sign of general sensation or consciousness appeared. This was an unpropitious commencement, and it would have been better to put off the operation a day. I injudiciously proceeded, however, and having injected the vesica, performed the operation; not a sign of sensibility appeared, I believe, till my finger was pressing the stone against the fundus of the vesica. He now became disturbed, and moved and

moaned while I was trying to get a proper hold of the stone, which was very difficult from its being of so oblong a form. He opened his eyes when the stone was passing through the pelvis, and seemed to be in the possession of his senses, but *when all was over, he said that he was only conscious of having felt something give way in his inside, followed by some heat in the seat of the wound.* As in former instances, he did not see for some time after his eyes were wide open, and the first thing he saw clearly was the stone when presented to him. He then only became aware of the presence of the gentlemen around him. The stone weighed 1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ ounces, 20 grains. With a little more patience this would have been as complete a case as any on record.

“With reference to the eye being insensible to external objects when wide open, and apparently natural, I beg to refer to the case of Suroop, a somnambulist. I had frequently observed the same phenomenon, before it occurred during operations, and have thus spoken of it in my ‘*Mesmerism in India.*’”

“HYPERTROPHIA SCROTI.

“*April 1st, 1847.* Shaik Koochill, a cart driver, æt. 50, residing at Karawa, in 24-Purgunnahs. Has got a common scrotal tumor for eight years. To be mesmerised for an hour and a half daily.

“*8th.* He is subject to fever twice a month, and as he was labouring under a paroxysm, when admitted, mesmerism was commenced only this day: sleeping profoundly, his arms were flexible and were tossed about the bed, his body was pricked all over; hair was torn out of his beard, and the tumor was severely pressed and thrown up to the abdomen with a jerk, without making any impression on him.

“*9th.* The same appearances and results to-day.

“*10th.* The operation was performed to-day. The testis dexter being diseased was removed. *There was not a quiver in his body visible from head to foot, and he lay like a corpse for half an hour afterwards, till I had operated on another man in the same room; I then awoke him, and it is needless to say that he knew nothing about the matter.* He felt no pain on waking, and had a great disposition to go to sleep again.

“*28th.* He has felt no pain in the wound up to this date, and there is no prospect of his doing so during his cure. Weight of the tumor 10 lbs.”

" HYPERTROPHIA SCROTI.

" *April 2nd.* Shaik Torab, a labourer, æt. 50, residing at Goorana, in Zillah Hooghly, has contracted a scrotal tumor for about 20 years. To be mesmerised daily for an hour and a half.

" *6th.* Slept naturally.

" *7th.* Arms rigid; he was insensible to pricking, &c.

" *8th.* Deeply entranced, his legs were raised in the air and thrown down on the bed several times, the hair of his beard was plucked out; his left nipple was severely pinched, and the tumor exposed testisque compressus est without disturbing his sleep.

" *10th.* After having disposed of Shaik Koochill, I proceeded to operate on this man. He had been for two days in the most satisfactory state, and I took it for granted that he was in the same state to-day. He shrunk on the first incision, however, and I almost made up my mind to desist, but trusting that though the trance might be disturbed, it would not be broken, and that he would retain no recollection of his apparent suffering, as usual I proceeded with the operation. But he very soon woke up completely, and had little advantage from his mesmeric trance. The contrast between this man and his more fortunate neighbour, Shaik Koochill, was most striking. He remained for 24 hours in the greatest pain, while the other did not experience an ache even. This poor fellow suffered from my taking too much for granted."

" HYPERTROPHIA SCROTI.

" *April 6th, 1847.* Bonmallee Bhuttacharge, a Brahmin, æt. 26, residing at Sookchur, in 24-Pergunnahs, has been troubled with a scrotal tumor for nine years. He was not mesmerised until the 13th on account of an attack of periodic fever to which he has been subject.

" *13th.* His arms were flexible, and tossing them about did not awake him; he was partially insensible to pricking.

" *14th.* He awoke on his right nipple being pinched.

" *15th.* A metallic basin was thrown on the stone floor close to his bed, his body was pricked all over, and his tumor exposed, and thrown up to the abdomen with a jerk without disturbing him.

" *20th.* He was disturbed on being rudely handled, and was therefore mesmerised for an hour more than the usual time, after which he appeared deeply entranced; his tumor was severely squeezed, and he was pricked all over without exciting the least movement in his system.

"21st. He appeared to be deeply entranced, and was therefore with the charpaie removed to the operating room; he was made to sit up on his bed in a strong current of air without disturbing him in the least. His mouth was with difficulty opened, and it remained fixed wide open. He soon after awoke with a start, and said that the air rushing down his throat had awakened him.

"22nd. The operation was performed to-day. The parts were all saved: weight of the tumor 30 lbs. Towards the end of the operation he moved and cried out unintelligibly, but on the fall of the mass became perfectly tranquil, and did not awake till after he had been covered with a clean sheet, and all traces of the operation removed. *Nothing had disturbed his sleep, he said, he felt just as usual, had no pain any where, &c.* The lump was then shewn to him, he recognized his property, and said it made him sick to look at it. He had no pain in the part for an hour after."

" HYPERTROPHIA SCROTI.

"April 14th. Shaik Morad, a tailor, æt. 40, residing at Sobhabazar, in Calcutta, has got a scrotal tumor for six years.

"To be mesmerised for an hour and a half daily.

"15th. Slept apparently naturally.

"16th. Arms partially cataleptic, he was to some extent indifferent to pricking; a cane was pushed up through the opening of the præputium to the symphysis pubis, which roused him.

"17th. He was pricked all over for a few minutes, the tumor was exposed and thrown up to the abdomen with a jerk, and a pin was put into the tip of his nose and left there for a few seconds, and then withdrawn; hair was plucked out of his beard, and his right nipple severely pinched; the latter appeared to have awakened him; but on seeing his hand marked with blood, he said that he awoke from the pain caused by pricking his hand.

"19th. Deeply entranced: he was subjected to several tests of insensibility; a brass basin was thrown on the stone floor close to his bed, &c., without disturbing him in the least.

"26th. He had been more easily disturbed for the two last days, and I suspected that I had examined him too late after two hours mesmerising. I therefore took him half an hour sooner to-day, and finding no instinctive movements present, I performed the operation. It was excessively severe and tedious, from the hard, almost cartilaginous character of

the mass. Testis unus was dissected out, but the other could not be found after protracted search, and on subsequent examination it was found to have degenerated into a mere capsule of skin, about the size of a French bean. This man was also disturbed before the end of the operation, but *did not awake till after he had been covered with a clean sheet. He was not aware that anything had happened to him; felt the weight as usual, he said, had no pain any where, &c.*

"28th. He has had no pain up to this date."

" HYPERTROPHIA SCROTI.

"Myzodeen. This will be found to be a very curious and interesting case, from its having given rise to a series of *impromptu* experiments exhibiting the *anodyne* as well as *narcotic* power of mesmerism, and therefore its curative virtues, and it also introduces us to an extraordinary mental phenomenon which had not occurred before in my Calcutta practice.

"I allude to the invasion of the waking by the sleeping state, which will be seen in this and the following case; and to show that this is not an accidental phenomenon, but is a specific symptom of the mesmeric state, I will cite some examples in which I had observed it at Hooghly. The first occasion on which it occurred was in a lady whom I entranced on the first trial in ten minutes, in the hope of relieving long standing nervous headaches. I awoke her with great difficulty, and she felt very much ashamed at having been caught napping by me, as she supposed; she had no recollection of having seen me that day before. The headache had disappeared, and never returned. Several months after this, the lady was tormented with one of her wisdom teeth, for which there was not room in her jaw, and the gum at the angle of the jaw had in consequence become ulcerated and indurated. I entranced her for the purpose of cutting away the offending gum, as easily as on the first occasion, and left her lying undisturbed on her couch. In about two hours afterwards, she awoke as if from a natural sleep, and went to arrange her hair at the glass; she then saw blood about her mouth, and cried to her husband that the boil had burst when she was asleep, and she wondered why I had not come to relieve her that day as I had promised: not only had she no recollection of having seen me that day, but it was found that everything that had happened during the half hour previous to the trance had been blotted from her mind.*

* See Dr. Elliotson's account of such Phenomena, in *Zoist*, No. XI., p. 476.

"Some months subsequently to this, I was sent for by this lady who had just been delivered, and was suffering from severe *after-pains*. I entranced her as readily as on former occasions, and left her sleeping. I returned in an hour after, and found her still asleep, but she awoke when I touched and spoke to her. She had enjoyed a refreshing sleep, she said, the pain was gone, and she felt much stronger. I held my fingers before her eyes for a minute or two, and she went off to sleep again; slept for two hours, and on waking had no recollection of our last conversation. This lady was only mesmerised these three times, and each time this mental phenomenon was developed.

"Dr. Bedford having seen an ulcer covering the whole of a woman's right temple, covered with muriatic acid while she was in the trance without her feeling it, returned to my hospital ten days after, and begged to be permitted to touch the sore with the acid in her natural state. Whatever I might think of such a proposal, I assented, and he touched the sore with the end of a glass stopper wetted with acid. The woman almost immediately cried that her head was on fire, and walked about the room distracted with pain. As the best anodyne, I threw her into the trance, performed an operation on her in it, and when she awoke she had no recollection of the burning even.

"*May 4th*, 1847. Myzooddeen, a Khidmutgar, æt. 25, residing at Kalitollah in Zillah Hooghly, has got a small scrotal tumor for two years. It came on as usual with fever, occurring twice a month at the change of the moon.

"To be mesmerised for an hour daily.

"*5th*. Sleeping profoundly, his arms being flexible were tossed about, his right nipple was severely pinched, testes compressi sunt, and he was subjected to the weakest power of an electro-magnetic machine without making any impression on his system. When the power of the machine was increased to the second degree, which could with great difficulty be borne by a robust man for a few seconds only, he was found to move like a man in an uneasy dream, and when he awoke, a few minutes after, he said he had not been disturbed by anything while sleeping.

"*6th*. Deeply entranced; he was for the second time made to bear the action of the electro-magnetic apparatus with power of the second degree without showing any sign of voluntary movements. He awoke about half an hour after, and said he had not been in any way disturbed whilst asleep.

"*7th*. He stood very well the action of the electro-magnetic battery with the power of the third degree for a few

minutes. He was then made to sit upon his bed, and was suddenly thrown down upon it, and his eyes were opened without breaking his slumber. He was then left sleeping.

"8th. He was made to sleep on a divided charpaie, the lower part of which was removed, and his legs were placed on two chairs, and the tumor exposed. But before commencing the operation, he was pricked with a knife, which made him shrink. A metallic basin was then thrown down on the stone floor close to his bed, which made him start suddenly. The operation was therefore deferred.

"9th. The operation was performed to-day, no sign of sensibility appeared till I had nearly dissected out the testis alter, he then moved convulsively, but without attempting to close his legs or interfere with my proceedings, and as I made the last cuts he screamed out. He shrunk during the tying of the arteries, but I desired the lad to continue to mesmerise him, and in a few minutes he was again entranced. In half an hour after (his mesmeriser having desisted), he awoke of his own accord, and said that he had slept soundly since half-past 10 o'clock, that nothing had annoyed him in his sleep, and he had no pain any where. He had no sooner said this than he exclaimed, 'There is a heat between my legs. Oh! it burns, what have you put upon me, Dr. Sahib?' and he appeared to be in very great pain. I ordered him to be again mesmerised, and in ten minutes he was fast asleep. At this moment Dr. Veitch entered the room, and I told him what had happened, and that I expected on the man's next awaking that he would have neither recollection of the operation, nor of his suffering from the effects of it, and so it turned out. He again awoke as if from a refreshing natural sleep, and told us that nothing had disturbed him since he went to sleep as usual, and that he had no pain any where. The sheet was now lifted to look if the bleeding had ceased, and he only now became aware that the operation had been performed. While some vessels were being taken up, Mr. Lindstedt, the man's master, joined us, to whom he repeated what I have just said. After he was bandaged, and had been allowed to smoke, I proposed to the gentlemen to make a third experiment if they would stay to see the issue. This was assented to, and he was again mesmerised. In about a quarter of an hour he was entranced the third time, and I plucked hair out of his moustache without his minding it. It cost me considerable trouble to awake him, and in reply to his master's questions, he said that he had this moment awoke and felt very well, he had not seen his master to-day before, nor Dr. Veitch, nor myself, &c.; in a word, the

transactions of the last hour and a half, in which he had acted so prominent a part, had not left a trace in his brain."

" HYPERTROPHIA SCROTI.

" *May 10th*, 1847. Gopaul Doss, a sirdar bearer, æt. 40, a large, very muscular man, has come from Ballessur, having travelled 24 miles a day for 5 days. He has been troubled with a small scrotal tumor for five years.

" To be mesmerised daily for an hour and a half.

" Sleeping profoundly, arms cataleptic, his tumor was exposed and severely squeezed. He was next subjected by Mr. Siddons to the action of an electro-magnetic machine, first with the power of the second degree, and then with that of the third, for about two minutes and a half each time, without exciting the slightest voluntary movements. He was placed on his feet, and slept standing a good while. He was afterwards put to bed and left to sleep.

" *11th*. He was electrified to-day in the presence of Dr. Jackson, with no more effect than yesterday.

" *12th*. The same repeated to-day in the presence of Mr. Halliday, Major Sage, Mr. Simms and Mr. Fraser.

" *13th*. The operation was performed to-day, and all the parts saved. He *lay like a corpse throughout*; weight of tumor 10 lbs. One testis was involved in a hydrocele, which was left till after all the vessels were tied. I then opened the sac and leisurely dissected off the thickened tunica vaginalis, to which he was as indifferent as to the first part of the operation. He began to awake gradually, with the assistance of fanning in about half an hour. After all was over, Mr. Kemp, who is an excellent Bengallee scholar, questioned him minutely, and he was in total ignorance that any thing had been done to him. He answered with reluctance, and wished to go to sleep again. I placed my fingers on his eyes for a minute, and on lifting them, he was asleep. I now begged the Messrs. Kemps' attention, telling them that they would probably find on his second waking that he had totally forgotten his first, and so it happened. We awoke him, and he said that he had not seen one of us to-day before, and that he felt just as usual.

" *14th*. The pain, since the operation, has been very trifling."

" HYPERTROPHIA SCROTI.

" *May 15th*, 1847. Ramessur, a husbandman, æt. 35, residing at Tatowladaspore in Zillah Burdwan, has got a moderate sized scrotal tumor for twelve years. Both legs are

affected with elephantiasis. He has been subject to the usual periodic fever coming on twice a month, but now only once in six months. To be mesmerised for an hour and a half daily.

"17th. No sleep was induced to-day.

"18th. Sleeping soundly; the tumor was exposed and severely squeezed, and his right nipple was pinched without breaking his slumber.

"19th. Apparently in mesmeric sleep, he was subjected to the action of the electro-magnetic machine, with the power of the second degree, which produced strong convulsive movements of his arms, and caused sharp shocks to persons touching his body. When he awoke about half an hour after he said he had not been in any way disturbed during his sleep.

"20th. Deeply entranced, he was pricked all over for several minutes, and his tumor was severely squeezed without disturbing him in the least.

"21st. He was operated on to-day; *unus testis* was found to be atrophied, and was removed, the other was saved: *not a sound or sigh escaped him, and the only movements visible I was told, were some slight contractions of the toes and face.* After all the vessels were secured, and he was covered with a clean sheet, I awoke him. He said that he had no pain in any part of his body, that he felt just as usual, and *was waiting to be operated on.*

"22nd. He has had no pain since the operation."

After presenting these details of agonizing operations performed with the most perfect evidence of painlessness,—the absence of movement, and of sound, and of the least effort at self-restraint, with the perfect corpse-like appearance of the patients during the severities of the knife, it is right, for the sake of displaying what we have to contend with from the dulness of some human natures in matters of intellect, and their errors in matters of morality, to present two extracts from the *Athenæum*, the reputed editor of which, Mr. D., who is responsible for all the anonymous leaders in his *Athenæum*, ought to blush and despise himself.

February 19, 1848, p. 189. "It was not till the recent discovery of the narcotizing effects of the vapour of ether, that any agent had been employed which could obviate the necessity of inflicting pain during the performance of surgical operations. The use of what is called mesmerism for the purpose can scarcely be said to be an exception to this statement, because of the unsatisfactory nature of the evidence on which cases of operation without pain under the influence of mesmeric agency rests. We were the first to hail the discovery of the anæsthetic powers of the vapour of ether, and

we pointed out the difference in the nature of the evidence as to the beneficial effects of this agent from that of mesmerism."

On looking, by means of the Index, into the former volume of the *Athæneum*, where the editor was the first, he says, to hail the discovery of the anæsthetic power of ether, and where this difference in the nature of the evidence was, I presume, pointed out, I found the following leader in the Number for January 2, 1847.

"Animal magnetism, it appears, is likely to meet with a powerful opposition. It can no longer claim to be the only agent through which a real or a *sham* insensibility of the system to pain may be produced. It has been found that the vapour of ether inhaled by the mouth induces, for a time, a complete paralysis of the nerves of sensation and loss of consciousness,* so that the subjects of the process are not aware of the application of painful agents. Teeth have been extracted both in this country and in America without feeling on the part of the patient, and the daily papers announce that Mr. Liston has amputated a leg under the influence of this new agent. *We can readily believe these statements.* A priori there seems no reason why a man should not be made dead drunk—for such appears to be the state of the individual under the influence of the vapour of ether—for a few minutes by some of the volatile narcotics which are used in medicine. There is nothing here of that *hocus-pocussing* which characterizes the practices of the mesmeriser. At the same time we do not regard the proof of the unconsciousness as perfectly satisfactory in these ether cases. In fact, we have too vivid a recollection of the tricks of magnetical impostors not to be on our guard against the possibility of shamming even with ether."

It would appear, therefore, that there is *hocus-pocussing* in mesmerism, and no *hoccussing* in making people "dead drunk," and that the evidence in the two agencies is different. Now, I ask any reasonable and honest man, what more of *hocus-pocus* there is in making passes with the hand than in *passing* the glass cylinder of an electrical machine round and round against the cushion? or in touching one or more parts of a patient with one's hand than in touching the Leyden vial with a brass conductor? I also ask, what is the difference of the evidence afforded by a patient mesmerised and by one etherized? After such assertions, we have a right to demand that the accounts recorded in this number and those—between two and three hundred—formerly recorded in *The Zoist*, of the phenomena of mesmerised patients who have undergone operations painlessly, and the accounts of the etherized patients, be placed side by side and the differences declared. *In*

* Loss of consciousness is not necessary to absence of pain in etherization. See proofs in my paper in No. XVI., p. 581.—J. ELLIOTSON.

truth the evidence is the same, and no rational and honest man will dare to say that there is the slightest difference. We have a right to demand of the editor what there is unsatisfactory in the evidence of insensibility under mesmerism in the beautiful and touching instances of painless operations performed in England, in France, in America, in the East and West Indies; what in the cases published in the very communication which I am now writing. Boldness and unscrupulousness of *general* assertion avail nothing. *The editor and his writers are all totally ignorant of the subject on which they write;—totally ignorant, and their inhumanity and effrontery may appear valiant in their own eyes, but fill the good with sorrow and the spirited and highminded with indignation.* I know that energetic writing displeases some persons; but our enemies are too bad to be influenced by gentleness and mild persuasion. Mesmerism is an affair not of mere science, but of mercy and feeling for our suffering fellow creatures, and it is the *solemn duty* of all men to hope earnestly that the alleged powers of mesmerism are true; and in this hope, to slight no facts in its favour, nor rashly to denounce it. Such conduct is as cruel as it is irrational. Mesmerism is one of the gravest and most important matters that concern mankind; it is a holy subject, affording unexpected insights into the powers and working of our nervous system, and fraught with signal blessings to mankind. Horace writes,

“Sunt quibus in Satira videor nimis acer,” &c.

But he who “knew what was in man,” and is our best example, did not refrain with the obdurate and shameless to exclaim, “Woe unto ye, Scribes, Pharisees, Hypocrites.” And Horace thus ends his satire,—

“si quis
Opprobriis dignum latraverat, integer ipse,
Solventur risu tabulæ; tu missus abibis.”

The writer, however, is not likely to feel any shame at being convicted of either inhumanity or gross ignorance of the facts of mesmerism. He is more likely to be wounded by the exposure of his literary ignorance. He says it was not till the recent discovery of the narcotizing effects of the vapour of ether, that any agent had been employed which could obviate the necessity of inflicting pain during the performance of surgical operations. He does not know that Pliny, speaking of Mandrake, says, that it is given BEFORE cutting and piercing (or, as some read it, firing) people, TO PREVENT

THEM FROM FEELING,—“*Bibitur et contra serpentes, et ante sectiones punctionesque*,”* *NE SENTIANTUR*.† The editor of the *Athenæum* is not aware not only of the passage in Pliny, but of one in Middleton’s tragedy of *Women beware Women*, published in 1657.

“I’ll imitate the pities of old surgeons
To this lost limb, who, ere they shew their art,
Cast one asleep; then,—cut the diseas’d part.”

In Mr. Samuel Cooper’s *Surgical Dictionary*, ed. 7, p. 45, is the following passage,—

“In these dismal days of surgery, the dark ages, the advice delivered by Celsus respecting amputation, was renewed by Theodoricus, who used to administer opium and hemlock previously to the operation, for the purpose of rendering the patient less sensible of pain, and afterwards, vinegar and fennel were given, with the view of dispersing the intoxicating effects of the preceding medicines.” *Chirurgiæ*, lib. iii., c. 10.

Also at page 53 of the *Dictionary*.

“I shall conclude this section with mentioning the laudable attempts made, at different periods, to render the patient less sensible of the agony produced by the removal of a limb. Theodoricus administered for this purpose opium and hemlock, and, though he was imitated by many of the ancient surgeons, few moderns have deemed the practice worthy of being continued. The inhalation of stupifying gas has been tried, and so has magnetism. M. J. Cloquet, by some preparatory means not specified by Velpeau, brought a patient into a condition in which the removal of the breast was accomplished without her having been aware of it, (Velpeau, *Nouv. Elém. de Méd. Op.*, t. i., p. 297, ed. 1). Guido made the experiment of benumbing the parts with a tight ligature; but a machine devised a few years ago in England expressly for the object of stupifying the nerves of a limb, seems freer from danger than some of the means adopted to bring the patient into a stupified state, (See J. Moore’s *Method of Preventing Pain in Several Operations*. London. 1784), &c.”

The case of painless removal of a cancerous breast by M. Cloquet was the celebrated one detailed in my pamphlet on *Surgical Operations in the Mesmeric State without Pain*.

Further information on the measures taken by surgeons in ancient and not quite modern times, and successfully too, in order to prevent surgical pain, will be found in a very interesting paper by Dr. Silvester, which he purposes sending to *The Zoist*.

* Some commentators think that we should read, not *punctiones*, but *ustiones*, because Dioscorides says, “*Dantur ex eo (mandragora) terni cyathi his qui secari aut uri debent*, iv. 76.”

† *Naturalis Historia*, l. xxv., s. xcv.

MEDICAL CASES.

" ENLARGED GLANDS.

" *December 23rd*, 1846. Miss Gordon, an East Indian by birth, aged 18, of lymphatic temperament. She has been suffering for two years from enlargement of the glands of the throat and neck, extending from the ear to the shoulder. The disfigurement is very great, and could only be adequately described by a drawing. A gland at the angle of the jaw is as big as an egg, and the chain from the ear to the shoulder is raised to the thickness of three fingers, impeding all motion on that side. There are also single enlarged glands in the upper triangle of the neck, and one in the lower as big as a large marble. Tenderness on pressure is very considerable in most of the glands, and they are all extremely hard. She has derived *no benefit from medical treatment under different doctors.*—Catamen: irreg: She was requested to come to the hospital daily to be mesmerised.

" *January 18th*. She has been mesmerised for an hour daily, both locally and generally. The swellings are sensibly softer, and somewhat reduced in size.

" *January 29th*. She has occasionally gone to sleep, and generally feels drowsy under the process. The swellings are *reduced to a remarkable degree*, and a third part only remains near the angle of the jaw. The lower part of the buttress that prevented all motion nearly, had disappeared, and she moves her head with little impediment to that side; the single glands in the triangle of the neck have nearly disappeared, and there is every prospect of the whole being speedily absorbed. Catamen: abundantiora."

" LAMENESS FROM CHRONIC RHEUMATISM.

" Wulleemahmood, a boatman, aged 30, a native of Chit-tagong, admitted 14th January, 1847.

" He has been troubled with rheumatism for five years. It was attended with fever, coming on every evening, for the first three or four months, but becoming irregular, and at last disappearing altogether for the last month. All the articulations of the joints are more or less painful, but especially those of the ankles, knees, wrists, and fingers. The ankles are considerably swollen, and exceedingly tender to the touch, and there is much pain in one heel. *For a month past he cannot walk without the support of a staff.*

" To be mesmerised locally and generally for an hour daily. No remarkable change was perceived during the first

four days of mesmerising, except that the pains became more general and the joints easier.

"*January 20th.* Sleeps at the time of mesmerising, and now and then is put to sleep by the local process alone.

"The swelling and pain of the joints are much diminished; he allows them to be handled freely, excepting the ankles, which are still slightly swollen and painful; he can walk out of the room *without a stick*.

"*January 23rd.* Has no pain in the joints, he can move them without pain; he walks about without a stick, but limps a little, the pain and swelling of the ankles nearly gone.

"*January 25th.* He feels quite well, has no pain in the ankles. He walks, runs, and leaps without the least pain, and was discharged to-day at his own request, *quite well*."

"CHRONIC RHEUMATISM AND STIFF ELBOW JOINTS.

"*January 15th.* Mr. Des Bruslais, a Frenchman, a merchant in Calcutta, aged 32. He has been suffering from rheumatism for the last six months, the left elbow is much enlarged, very tender and stiff; it is half bent, and can neither be bent nor extended farther. Numerous enlarged glands surround the joint, and the least pressure is exquisitely painful; the wrist is also quite stiff. The other elbow is a little contracted and painful, but not enlarged, and there are two unhealthy abscesses at the top of the breast bone, where the surrounding parts are swollen and very tender.

"The left elbow is scarred all over by blisters and cauteries, from which he derived *no benefit*, and he has *abandoned all medical treatment*.

"His nights are very restless, and he can with great difficulty turn himself in bed, and he cannot, without help, take off or put on his coat. His spirits and appetite are bad, and his nervous system is much broken. To come to the hospital daily for an hour to be mesmerised, locally and generally.

"*January 16th.* The abscesses were opened to-day, and a quantity of unhealthy matter let out.

"*January 18th.* He slept during the mesmerising yesterday, and had a *good night* afterwards; to-day the *pains are much less*.

"*January 20th.* He can move the left wrist freely, the pain in the elbow joint is much less, and he can dress himself without help.

"*January 25th.* Nearly all pain has disappeared from the left elbow; he can bear it to be freely pressed, and even struck with little pain, and can *bend it nearly to the natural*

degree: he also extends his arm better, and the wrist is *quite free*. He *sleeps well*, turning in and rising from his bed *easily*; his spirits and appetite are much improved. He has slept daily for the last week during the mesmerising, and bears considerable extension of the arm without awaking. On several occasions, he has tried to keep awake to witness certain experiments that were going on in the room, but found it to be impossible. The pain and enlargement about the sores on the breast are nearly gone.

"*January 27th*. I worked his elbow with considerable force to-day when he was asleep. There is enlargement of the ends of the bones, and grating about the joint, and the head of the radius is impacted by morbid adhesions.

"He was not aware of this rough examination on waking, and it is clear the impediment to motion now is purely mechanical, and will probably be overcome to a great degree by time and exercise. The original contracting cause, inflammation, is extinguished."

"CHRONIC RHEUMATISM.

"*Feb. 14th*. Mr. Johnson, an European, aged 34. He had a severe fever three years ago, and after it was seized with nervous headaches, which came on daily for eight months, and then became irregular. He got no permanent relief from medical aid. Five weeks ago, he was attacked with severe pain in the right elbow joint, this has continued ever since, increasing greatly at night, and preventing him from sleeping; as the disease of the elbow increased, the headaches became better, and have not been felt lately. There is some swelling at the inner side of the joint, which is considerably contracted. *He cannot shave himself without pain and difficulty, and employs a barber.* To be mesmerised locally and generally. The following are Mr. Johnson's own notes of his case:

"*15th*. Mesmerised in the arm for half an hour, pain very slight after the operation and during the rest of the day: no pain at night.

"*16th*. Mesmerised in the arm for an hour; after the operation, found I could bend the arm with greater ease, and bring it much nearer the shoulder than I could before; no pain during the day or night; sleep unbroken for the first night for many months.

"*17th*. Arm painful and stiff; mesmerised locally for half an hour, and generally for the same time; felt very drowsy during the latter operation; was roused by a violent shock through the whole of my body; arm slightly painful all day,

no pain during the night; slight nervous headache during the afternoon; slept soundly; *can shave easily*.

"18th. No pain; mesmerised locally and generally for half an hour. Elbow continues contracted, no headache. Towards evening felt a slight pain in *left* elbow, which increased during the night and prevented my sleeping. Slight pain also in right elbow.

"19th. Severe pain in *left* elbow; muscles outside the joint slightly swollen; no pain in right arm, but it still continues contracted; mesmerised locally in each arm; no perceptible effect; slight pain in left arm during the night. Mesmerised generally; fell into a deep sleep; have no idea of what occurred during the trance; how long it lasted, or how I was awakened; no headache.

"20th. Slept soundly, pain very slight in left arm; none in the right, but it continues slightly contracted; mesmerised locally and generally; no sleep produced.

"28th. Mr. Johnson had taken his passage for Singapore before he came to the Hospital, and had only a few days to spare. He has not returned since the 20th, and then he was without pain; the contracted arm scarcely differed from the other, and could also be much more freely flexed."

" ENLARGED GLANDS.

"Feb. 18th. Sarah Goodall, aged 11 years. For the last eight years she has been subject to a periodic attack of inflammation in the glands of the neck and ear, every six months. The glands at the angle of the jaw first become painful and enlarged; the ear is next involved, and she is not relieved till suppuration takes place; as soon as one ear is well, the other is attacked in the same way.

"Her mother never recollects the glands swelling without the ear ache following, and this is about the time for her half-yearly attack.

"There was much fever during the attack which was never subdued without leeching, and her eye-sight has been injured in consequence. The words in a book often seem all one line. She looks pale and lymphatic.

"To be mesmerised locally and generally.

"22nd. The tenderness and enlargement of the glands under the ear disappeared after two days mesmerising, and the ear has not been at all affected, which never happened before. She looks more lively, and her eye-sight is natural: when she came here it was very dim and imperfect. This girl's system has been exhausted by periodic leeching for many

years ; I have therefore ordered a gentle course of chalybeates after the mesmeric treatment."

" RHEUMATISM.

" *Feb. 14th*, 1847. Shaik Ameer, a Moherer, aged 50, residing in Calcutta, has been troubled with a stiff ankle for five years. It came on after an attack of cholera, with rheumatic pains in all the other large articulations of the body. He cannot bend or extend the foot, nor strike his heel against the ground without much pain. The joint is swollen, and painful on being pressed, and he limps in walking. To be mesmerised daily for an hour.

" *15th*. The ankle is less painful on being pressed ; and admits of slight extension and flexion.

" *21st*. He can walk much better, and feels slight pain at the time ; both extension and flexion are performed with greater facility ; the swelling of the ankle is somewhat diminished. He now and then dozes at the time of mesmerising.

" *28th*. He extends his foot with much more ease, and can strike it against the ground, which he could not do for the last five years.

" *March 10th*, 1847. He feels slight pain when he walks on uneven surfaces, but can move the joint pretty freely. The swelling and pain of the ankle have subsided, except at the outside, which is painful on pressure.

" *15th*. He walks very well even on an uneven surface, and feels no pain at the time ; he can strike his foot against the ground without pain, which he could not do before. The swelling of his ankle has entirely disappeared, it is like the sound one. He feels very well in every respect, and has sufficient strength in the foot to enable him to work for his bread. He ceased to come to the Hospital after this date."

" EPILEPSY.

" *Jan. 27th*, 1847. Mrs. Goodall, aged 33, has been subject to epileptic fits for 19 years ; they are preceded by trembling of the little and ring finger of the left hand, followed by convulsions of the arms : she becomes insensible and foams at the mouth : the fit lasts about ten minutes, and returns generally twice a month. The last fit was in October, and she has had threatenings of an attack every week since, which compel her to sit up all night as the only means of escaping a fit. From the commencement of her complaint she has constantly felt a sensation of creeping in the ring and little finger of her left hand, which causes her to rub them per-

petually with her thumb, and for six years there has been a pain in the lower part of the abdomen. For the last six years she has taken tinct. of hemp at night, and cannot possibly sleep without it; she commenced with four drops, but now takes 38 every night at bed-time. Her general health is broken down: catamen. reg. but scanty, and she has distressing palpitations on lying down. To leave off the hemp, and be mesmerised daily for an hour.

“Mrs. Goodall kept a diary of her case, which is too long and monotonous to give in full; I shall therefore only extract a few of the entries which show a break or change in the diseased chain of action.

“‘*Jan. 28th.* Went again to the hospital to-day at 12 o’clock, found a little change in the arm, slept from 10 till 4 o’clock.

“‘*29th.* The creeping in the fingers has disappeared, trembling in the body rather less, slept from $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 till $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3, (this trembling which was a new symptom, probably arose from the disuse of the hemp, but it is also often a mesmeric symptom).

“‘*Feb. 1st, 1847.* Went at 8 o’clock, and was mesmerised for three quarters of an hour, but could not remain on account of the trembling and heaviness of the head, night restless.

“‘*2nd.* The pain in the lower part of the stomach that has been present for the last six years has left me for the first time: night quiet.’ No tendency to fits during this month.

“‘*March 20th, 1847.* Very much troubled with pain in the arm to-day; at night got up with a tingling feel, which causes me always to start in my sleep before the fits come on; slept for four hours after; (when I used to have that sensation before, I was obliged to sit up all night).’

“In all April there is only a record of nervous aches, &c., without any epileptic symptoms, and at this date, 30th April, the alteration in her state amounts to this. The sensation of creeping in the fingers and the pain at the lower part of the abdomen have not returned; during three months there has been only one epileptic symptom, and this for the first time was not followed by a fit: she sleeps enough to refresh nature, 3 and 4 hours at a time, without the use of narcotics, and her general feelings are improved. This is perhaps as much as could be expected in so shattered a system, and so inveterate a disease, and is enough to show, I think, that mesmerism is a new source of relief for Mrs. Goodall.*

“* There has been no epileptic symptom up to this date, 10th July. Mrs. G. when restless sends for her mesmeriser, and the process always secures her a night’s rest.

"That we may not be in danger of falling into the '*post hoc, ergo propter hoc*' style of argument, it is necessary to multiply examples, and I can spare no more labour on this case, my time for experiment being limited."

"CHRONIC RHEUMATISM, ENLARGED GLANDS AND BURSEÆ.

"*Jan. 21st, 1847.* Frances Ann Elliot, aged 30, an East Indian by birth; has been suffering from enlargement of the bursa on the inner side of the right ankle for about two years. It is about the size of a hen's egg, soft and painful to the touch. In the course of the last fortnight the left one has been similarly affected, and is exceedingly painful, especially at night, preventing her sleep; the skin covering it is discoloured, and cannot be touched without making her scream. A like enlargement also occupies the back of her left hand, and the middle and ring finger of it; the latter is much swollen, very tender, cannot be bent, feels as if bursting, and gives her great pain at night.

"To be mesmerised locally and generally for an hour daily.

"On the 3rd day the smarting of the tumor on the left ankle disappeared, but the throbbing remained, and the skin was greatly discoloured.

"Ordered to apply poultice thrice a day.

"*27th.* She complained of much throbbing in the swelling of the left ankle.

"To have ten leeches.

"*28th.* She is not relieved by the leeches, the pain rather increased.

"*31st.* The swelling and pain of the left ankle, and on the back of the hand, and the ring and middle fingers much diminished. She allows them to be handled without complaining of much pain. The tumefaction and pain in the right ankle remain in the same state, she feels much pain on being touched at that part.

"*Feb. 10th.* Much freer from pain and tumefaction in the left ankle, but the discolouration rather deepened. The swelling on the left hand rapidly discussing. That on the right ankle continues unchanged.

"*28th.* An ulcer broke out on the discoloured ankle; it is very unhealthy and painful to the touch.

"*March 12th.* The swelling in the left hand has nearly disappeared, but that on the fingers rather increased; the ulcer rapidly healing by the use of ordinary dressings.

"*31st.* The ulcer nearly cicatrized. The swelling and pain on the left hand and fingers disappearing daily.

"*April 23rd.* The ulcer healed up: the swelling and pain on the left hand and fingers have left her. She can now walk from the hospital to her home without any inconvenience, and was a few days after discharged at her own request, quite free from pain."

" STIFF ARM.

"*April 5th, 1847.* Beeja, a Syce, æt. 30, residing in Calcutta, has got a stiff arm for about six months, attended with pain and much swelling. It was caused by inflammation of the elbow joint in consequence of a fall. The arm was bent nearly at a right angle. It could be to a certain extent bent, but not extended. There was an enlarged bursa at the back of the joint.

"To be mesmerised for an hour daily.

"*20th.* He can bend the arm freely, and extend it to about an obtuse angle. The pain of the joint nearly gone, and the swelling diminished.

"*30th.* The pain and swelling of the joint have disappeared, and he can stretch the arm nearly to the proper extent and bend it well: enlargement of the bursa remained unchanged.

"*May 19th.* The arm appears perfectly straight, and he says that he has quite recovered the use of it."

" PARALYSIS.

"*April 7th, 1847.* Bhoobunmohun Dey, a pedlar, residing in Calcutta, has been labouring under hemiplegia for about 16 days. It came on in the course of a single night; he went to bed in perfectly good health, and found the whole of the left side of his body totally paralyzed next morning. There is complete palsy of all the left side, his left fist is firmly clenched, and cannot be opened without much difficulty; the left side of his face is permanently distorted, and drawn upwards; his left foot and leg are rigidly extended, the left side of the tongue is also paralysed. He can utter only indistinct sounds, which he does with great exertion. He falls to the ground like a wet rag when not supported, and when made to sit up he falls over to the left side like a dead body, when support is removed.

"To be mesmerised for an hour daily.

"*8th.* He did not sleep at the time of being mesmerised.

"*11th.* He can raise the fore-arm and the leg considerably from the bed, and slightly open his hand, the spasm of the face is much abated, and the distortion can hardly be recognized.

"13th. He can sit up and speak pretty distinctly. He has so far regained the use of the affected limb that he can make it partially bear the weight of his body in the act of walking, with a slight support.

"18th. He got up from the bed and walked in the room with a staff to-day. He could stand even without it. He complained of spasm and pain in the affected side.

"24th. He is getting strength daily in the affected limbs; the spasm of the parts nearly gone: he now walks without a staff, and can raise the paralyzed arm considerably, but cannot open or close the fist.

"27th. He slept in the open verandah and exposed himself to the cold air, he became worse, his voice became hoarse, and the affected side was felt heavier, and lost in some measure the vitality which had been restored; he coughs and can't expectorate.

"To have half an ounce of cough mixture thrice a day.

"He is not able to rise from his bed, and in attempting to do so tumbled down.

"May 1st. He appears a little better; regaining strength in the leg, but the arm can't be moved, raised, or bent: the fist remains closed, but can be easily extended.

"7th. He walks without a staff, and the limb affords considerable resistance at the time. He can bend, extend, and raise the fore-arm. He feels much aching in the affected side, and breathes much freer: his voice is improved.

"21st. He can bend and extend the leg pretty freely; it bears the weight of his body with greater firmness: he can raise and bend the arm much better. He is getting strength daily in the affected side, and walks safely about the compound. He begged leave to go and see his family for a day, but promised to return. If he does, his case shall be continued."

"INSANITY.

"Kylas Chatterjee, a Mohurer, æt. 28, native of Talinparah in Zillah Hooghly, was brought from the lunatic asylum on the 4th April. He has been considered insane for *two years*, and has been in the asylum four months. He looks idiotic, but is calm and quiet; his spirits are dejected, and he is disinclined to all active exertion. There is pain in the loins and back of the shoulders, causing great difficulty in walking. He becomes occasionally violent.

"To be mesmerised for an hour daily.

"28th. The pain in the loins and shoulders much mitigated, his health is greatly improved, and he looks much more

lively. He is tired of being idle, and therefore wishes to be allowed to act as cook.

"*May 5th.* The pain in the loins and shoulders entirely gone, he now walks without any inconvenience.

"*10th.* He addressed a Bengalee letter to me to-day, asking permission to go home as he was perfectly cured.

"*21st.* He is much more lively than when he came, and says he is again able to manage his business. Seeing no reason to detain him further, he was dismissed to-day. The native doctor of the lunatic asylum found him to be *much improved.*"

"EPILEPSY AND INSANITY.

"Nobin, a labourer, æt. 30, a native of Joypore in Zillah Cuttack, was transferred to our hospital, on the 4th April, from the lunatic asylum. He has been suffering from epilepsy for two years; fits come on two or three times a month, generally at the change of the moon, and last for about 10 minutes. After which, he becomes insane eight or ten days, and behaves very violently, and speaks incoherently.

"To be mesmerised for an hour daily.

"*15th.* Had a fit at night with severe convulsions lasting about ten minutes, and followed by heaviness and pain in the head, but no symptoms of insanity followed.

"*23rd.* A fit came on in the first part of the night with strong convulsions; it remained for six minutes, but was followed by no heaviness and pain in the head, or derangement of mind.

"*29th.* This day, at 10 o'clock, while he was being mesmerised, he was threatened with a fit, but it did not come on.

"*11th.* A paroxysm occurred at about 11 o'clock, lasting about five minutes, and attended with convulsions, but followed by no symptoms of insanity, nor by heaviness and pain in the head.

"*20th.* He has been impatient to get home for ten days past, and made his escape last night by climbing over the wall. A remarkable revolution had taken place in this man's symptoms. Formerly the fits were *always* followed by eight or ten days' insanity: since he has been mesmerised, this *never occurred.*"

I find the following in the *Delhi Gazette* for January the 22nd.—JOHN ELLIOTSON.

"One of the first duties of the new Governor-General will be to decide on the fate of the mesmeric hospital. This

institution was closed last month after more than a year's trial, in order that Lord Dalhousie might be left free to decide upon the subject; if he act as liberally in the matter as Sir Herbert Maddock has done, he will have begun his administration under good auspices. It is to be hoped he has not come here charged with English notions about mesmerism, which, as every body knows, are none of the brightest. I witnessed a mesmeric operation 'of the usual kind' yesterday at Dr. Esdaile's house, in company with a few distinguished individuals, among whom I recognized your friend *Hurk*. There were present besides Colonel Lawrence, General Whish, Captain Astell (A.D.C.) and two or three others, not forgetting Mr. Halliday, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, who is very much addicted to mesmerism, and has been a constant frequenter of the hospital. After the operation came some very interesting experiments with 'Chloroform,' the new agent for alleviating pain which I see has been described by your London correspondent. With one drachm of the fluid we succeeded in depriving a bheestie of his seventeen senses in wonderfully short time. The spectators most of them tasted the vapour, I did so with the rest and found it very pleasant, but 'powerful strong;' one good whiff made me feel very after-dinnerish, and the same effect was noticed by every body else who swallowed the stuff. Ether chokes you and makes you feel tartar-emetic-ish; chloroform (a perchloride of formyle) does neither; it knocks you down at once and no nonsense about it."

II. *The employment of measures to prevent the pain of Surgical Operations by Drugs, not a novelty.* By THOMAS HOOKHAM SILVESTER, M.D., Clapham, Surrey.

WHETHER instructed by tradition or by repeated trials and diligent search, it is certain that from the earliest ages to the present day, anodynes have formed an important part of the materia medica of the medicine-givers of the savage and of the civilized states of past and present times.

Surrounded on all sides in every region by agents possessing the remarkable property of benumbing the senses, it would indeed be astonishing did not man employ them for the relief of pain and suffering to which he has always been subject.

The moderns have sought to explain the phenomena of the living body, to trace structure to its primary condition, and to reach by induction first principles and general laws; the ancients bestowed more attention on the means of cure,

and the possibility of relief by every substance not employed as food. They ransacked the treasury of nature in search of remedies, and it cannot be said that their search was fruitless. Nature is inexhaustible, and we have added to the general stock of remedies; we have retained much that is useful, but we have neglected or rejected much that with advantage might have been retained.

To those who are interested in such matters, I would recommend a critical perusal of the works of the ancient authors contained in the two volumes of the *Artis Medicæ Principes*. With these general remarks by way of preface, I proceed to enquire whether the ancients or medicine-men of former days possessed any knowledge of anæsthetic agents, and whether that knowledge was at any time practically applied to the prevention of pain in operations.

The rich, copious, and discriminative language of the Greeks will afford us some assistance in this enquiry; for the existence of a term or name attests the former existence of the thing to which that was applied. There may be many more, but it will be sufficient to enumerate four drugs or pharmaka.

1. The nepenthes, or sorrow soother; the epithet of an Egyptian drug which lulled sorrow for the day (occurring in the *Odyssey*).

2. The pharmakon acholon, which allayed anger, noticed by Homer.

3. The potos astonos, a potion to chase away sighs, mentioned by Anacreon.

And 4. The pharmakon anodunon, an anodyne described by Plutarch.

The narrative, in the course of which a description of the nepenthes will be found, sufficiently shews that this singular remedy could not have been either wine or opium, nor have we, I believe, any analogous pharmaceutical or other preparation.* The following is a brief extract from the account by Homer.

“Immediately she (that is, Helen, the daughter of Jove) dropped into the wine of which they drank a drug, which by its latent power destroyed all wrath, removed the bitterest grief, and buried in oblivion evils and woes of every hue. Of this whoever drank, heaved not a sigh, nor dropped a tear the livelong day. Ah! see at his feet the mangled corse of his once loved and venerated sire, or the remains of a dear

* M. Veray has shewn that it was the hemp, used in the east and now medicinally in England. See Dr. Fossati's paper on the Art of making Madmen at pleasure, in No. XVII., p. 34.—*Zoist*.

mother, or the deadly gash in the bosom of a cherished child or valued brother; these things he views unmoved, or with a tranquil smile.”*

Homer goes on to say that these admirable pharmaka had been brought by Polydamna from Egypt, where the gracious earth produced an abundance of remedies, mixed and simple, many of excellent virtue, some dangerous and fatal: but of all men, says the sage, the Egyptian doctor was the most learned and skilful.†

It would be tedious and wearying to go through the history and description of all the potions and medicaments alluded to or described by Hippocrates, Galen, Plutarch, Anacreon, and other Greek authors; anodynes formed an important part of their armamentarium against disease. The poppy was known to them as well as the cicuta, hyoscyamus, aconite, and mandrake; their peculiar characteristic effects are described, the dangers attendant on their careless or profuse administration, and the best antidotes to be given in such a case. Some are regarded as soporific or provocative of sleep; others as anodyne or capable of removing bodily pain; whilst another class may be termed anæsthetic, being endowed with virtues analogous to ether and chloroform, and probably employed in a similar manner and for a similar purpose. Time will not allow of my treating this subject fully, I must therefore content myself with giving a brief account, as a specimen, of one of the most remarkable substances used in former times as a soporific, anodyne, and anæsthetic; I mean the atropa mandragora or mandrake.

This plant belongs to the solaneæ. It is found wild in many parts of Europe and Asia, and, what is remarkable, it is everywhere invested with fanciful properties. “It is reported,” says Cruden, “that in the province of Pekin in China there is a kind of mandrake so valuable that a pound of that root is worth thrice its weight in silver; for they say it so wonderfully restores the sinking spirits of dying persons that they often thereby return to life and health.” This curiously coincides with a remark of Hippocrates, that a small dose of the mandragora root in wine, not sufficient to induce delirium, will effectually cure those who are saddened in spirit, ready to destroy themselves, as also the sinking and anxious patients.‡ Josephus also under the name of baacas, describes its efficacy

* Odyssey, lib. iv., l. 221. κακῶν ἐπὶ ληθον ἅπαντων.

† Ἰητροὺς δὲ ἕκαστος ἐπιστάμενος περὶ πάντων Ἀνθρώπων ———

1. 231.*

‡ Hipp. de locis in homine, p. 76.

* Herodotus iii. 129. Diodorus Siculus gives it as a report that the secret was still in his own time in the possession of the women of Diospolis, the ancient Thebes.—Zoist.

in the cure of sick persons dying under the malignant influence of demons.* Pliny gives directions for its digging up and its use. Persons who take it improperly, he observes, lose the use of their tongue thereby, and prove dumb for a time; and if they take much, they surely die; yet it may safely enough be given to procure sleep. According to Castell, there were two sorts, that cultivated in gardens and that found wild; both well known in the east from the earliest times, and identical with the mandrakes alluded to in the Holy Scriptures,† and there termed *dūdā-im*, corresponding with the Syriac *yabrūhhē*, the Chaldee *yabrūhlūn*, and the Arabic *yabrūhh*. *Dūdā-im* implies literally agitation or excitement, and by metonymy that in which it takes place. Bulleine, in his *Bulwarck against all Sicknesse*, says, “And thus I end of mandrack, whych in old tyme it was called *circæum* of witches, whych had vertue (sayd they) or craft to transforme both man and beast and herbe out of kynde.” An ancient Persian authority, quoted by Castell, thus expresses himself,—“love properties‡ are usually ascribed to this root, as also danger in pulling it up,”|| (so faithfully by the bye depicted by Shakespeare in his *Romeo and Juliet*.) This superstition is common to the east and west, and has made its way over a considerable portion of the civilized world, being of very ancient date; the wonder is how it has so long passed without consideration and correction, arising as it does out of ignorance. Dr. Lee, in his *Hebrew Lexicon*, says that it was well known to the ancients as possessing extraordinary virtues, and when taken inwardly rendering one insensible to the pain of even cutting off a limb.

It can scarcely be supposed that a plant which has so extensively and for so long a period attracted attention and bewitched the imagination, possesses no virtues. Extensive and popular errors have commonly something like truth for their basis, and accordingly we find in all the best authorities of ancient and comparatively modern times no ordinary powers attributed to the mandragora. The father of medicine says, that “if you would cure convulsion (does he mean tetanus?), let a fire be lighted on each side of the couch, and

* Josephus, b. vii., c. 6, p. 3.

† Genesis xxx. 14, and Canticles vii. 13.

‡ Hesychius gives *mandragoretis* as a title of Aphrodite.—*Zoist*.

|| Theophrastus Hist. Plant. ix. 9. Columella x. 15, mentions “*Semihominis mandragoræ flores*,” an expression that calls to mind the nickname of mandrake given to mad Shallow when he was at Clement’s Inn and according to Falstaff looked for all the world like a forked radish.”—*Zoist*.

The epithet given to the mandrake by Columella corresponds with that given to it, they said by Pythagoras, who called it *ανδρωπομορφον*.—*Zoist*.

the root of the mandragora be administered in drink in a dose less than would induce delirium ;” for what purpose were these fires lighted but to affect the patient through the fumes of the dried root thrown into the flames. This notion will receive confirmation as we proceed with our enquiry.

Aretæus says, that “those who drink an infusion of the root fall into a deep and long-continued sleep (*sopor*), and if you attempt to rouse them, they do not attend to you, and soon relapse into the same state. Others become disturbed in mind and slowly fall into an oblivious condition. Some seem only to have the natural sleep augmented. When danger is present, the patient keeps drawing in the air at his mouth, gasping, and if help is not soon given, he dies convulsed.” This appears to be a true and graphic description of the symptoms of poisoning by chloroform; the lungs being generally found congested.

Paulus Ægineta, c. 44, p. 547, observes, that “if mandragora be drunk, a heavy sleep and stupor with relaxation of the frame immediately takes place; and so vehement is the tendency to sleep, that the affection differs in nothing from lethargy or apoplexy itself.” He recommends, in such a case, walking the patient about and applying stimulants to the nostrils, as suitable remedies. Much more information on this head might be obtained from the perusal of ancient authors on medicine. The facts adduced are sufficient, I hope, to establish the truth that powerful anæsthetic agents were known to the physicians of antiquity. It must now be shewn that the ancient practitioners employed these agents previously to surgical operations on the principle now employed in chloroform.

You will find in Dioscorides, lib. iv., c. 76, when treating of mandragora, the following description, abbreviated, of it and its effects: “There are two kinds; the black, which is reckoned the female, and the white, which is called the male, and by some morion; the berries of these are occasionally eaten by shepherds in the field, and a sort of sleepy torpor is the consequence. Some boil down the root in wine to a fluid, and preserve the strained decoction; of this they drink a wine glass full for wakefulness and severe pains of any part of the body, and also previous to sectiones ustionesque,” that is to say, amputations and the use of the actual cautery, and—adds my author, “ne sentiantur.” It seems therefore to have been used both as a medicinal anæsthetic and as a domestic remedy. Is it unreasonable to suppose that the mandrakes found in the field by Reuben, and brought to his mother Leah, and afterwards purchased at the cost of her

husband's favours by Rachel, was intended to make into a wine for the relief of the pains of parturition? Nothing can be more absurd than the opinions of the commentators that the plant in this case formed one of the ingredients of a love-philter, a most unlikely present from a son to a mother. The anecdote is remarkable for its graphic simplicity and air of truthfulness.

In the words of our author,—“Ciet atque partum,” it promoteth parturition,—something like an allusion to its particular employment at child-birth, though, it must be confessed, not as an anæsthetic.

Dioscorides, in a certain part of his treatise, after describing another preparation, the maceration of the external coat of the root in wine, expresses himself thus, “Atque dantur ex eo terni cyathi, iis qui secari urive debent, uti ante dictum, neque enim altiore somno sopiti dolorem percipiunt;” that is to say, three measures of it are given to those who are obliged to undergo the operations of amputation and of the actual cautery, as hath been before said; for buried in a very profound sleep they feel no pain.

It is not distinctly expressed, although evidently implied, in the foregoing quotation, that the administration of this agent was under the direction of the surgical operator. The following passage from Dioscorides plainly shews that it was ordinarily had recourse to by the practitioners of medicine, for the express purpose of rendering their patients insensible to the pain of operations.

“Obdormiscit enim homo, eadem qua illam comederit figura, sensus impos, ternis quaternisve ex quo data est, horis; sed et illa *medici* utuntur cum secandi urendive necessitas adest.”

That is to say, “The person falls into a profound sleep in the same attitude as that in which he was when he drank the potion, and remains deprived of sense and feeling for three or four hours; physicians employ this remedy when there is a necessity for amputating limbs, or for the use of the actual cautery.”

To pass on to a later age, Pliny, in the 94th Chapter of the 25th Book of his *Natural History*, terminates an elaborate account of the mandragora by this remark, “that it is administered as a medicine for the bite of serpents, and preparatory to amputations and other surgical operations, in order to prevent the sense of pain which these inflictions occasion.”

Having thus reviewed in a rapid and cursory manner the practice of the Greeks and Romans in regard to narcotics and anæsthetic agents, it remains to trace a similar line of proceeding amongst the practitioners of the middle or dark

ages, and for brevity sake, I will refer chiefly to one author, namely, Joannes Baptista Porta, who appears to have collected in his dissertation on natural magic, everything known at that period, (namely, the end of the sixteenth century,) on the subject now occupying our attention.

He quotes from Dioscorides a passage, which describes the Greek physicians as in the habit of exhibiting drugs to their patients *before any great operation*, and so of keeping them in a state of *perfect insensibility for three or four hours*, and he remarks that Demosthenes, in one of his speeches,* likens some men to those who have drunk of the mandrake, and whom no eloquence can awake. The simplicity of ancient prescriptions seems to have been relinquished, for we now find a pomum somnificum, composed of divers secret ingredients, much in use, opium, the mandrake, solanum, belladonna, the juice of the cicuta, and seeds of hyosycamus, with the addition of a little musk both for concealment and fragrance; these were beaten together into a mass as large as the closed fist, and an essence extracted from the composition. This essence was *not to be swallowed*, but BREATHED or INHALED, according to the following directions:—

Let the essence be shut up in vessels of lead, most accurately closed, lest the subtle aura escape, for in that case the whole power of the medicine would be lost; at the moment of using, the lid being opened, place the mass immediately under the nose of the person, and he will draw-in with his breath, by smelling the most subtle strength of the vapour, and thereby his senses will be locked up as it were in a citadel, so that he will be buried in a most profound sleep, from which nothing but the greatest possible violence can awaken him. After this sleep no heaviness of the head is felt; and if the feat has been performed during the natural sleep of the person, and without his knowledge or consent, he does not discover the trick played upon him. “*Iniquis celamus, probis apparet,*” says my author,—“we conceal these matters from the bad, it will appear plain enough to the good.”

A.D. 1579, Bulleyne expresses himself cautiously as follows, “Again the juice of this herb pressed forth and kept in a close earthen vessel, *according to art*, bringeth sleepe and casteth man into a trance or a *deepe* terrible dreame, until he be cut of the stone, &c.”

In the writings of Albertus Magnus, Joannes B. Porta, the alchymists, and natural magicians, there reigns a spirit

* Encom.—The Timon of Lucian taxes Jupiter, on the ground of his evident indifference to the villanies of the world, with being asleep under the influence of a dose of mandragora.—*Zoist*.

of secrecy and concealment, characteristic of the age. “Hæc solerti medico clara sunt, impio obscura,” is the cautious remark of Porta. We are therefore justified in the supposition in reference to the precise manner of applying the powerful anodynes and anæsthetic agents, described in their works, that they knew more of the method by inhalation than they chose to confess; it was accomplished whilst the patient slept, and without his permission, and generally he was kept in utter ignorance of the whole transaction. As a single and certainly unique illustration of this remark, I will beg to be allowed to read an account of what happened to Augustus, King of Poland, and how he underwent a severe operation without pain or suffering, or even knowledge of the transaction, until he awoke from the trance in which he had been put by the operating surgeon.

The following view of the operation is taken from Augustus Gottlieb Meissner’s *Skizzen*, published at Carlsruhe in the last century.



The story to which the print refers is an occurrence in the life of Augustus I., who was King of Poland towards the end of the seventeenth century. His Majesty had for some time been suffering from a wound in the foot. The surgeon, Weiss, a pupil of the celebrated Petit, of Paris, on being consulted, declared that mortification was taking place, and that immediate amputation was necessary. The court surgeons were opposed to *this*, as they chose to term it, *rash* advice, and strongly urged the king to send for Petit,

which was accordingly done. Weiss, in the mean time, being apprehensive of a fatal result from the delay, resolved, at the risk of his own life, to save that of his sovereign. Accordingly, one night, while the king slept, having administered a powerful anodyne remedy, during the insensibility thereby produced, he performed the operation of amputation, cutting off the diseased parts. The patient seemed conscious of something unusual being done, but was pacified by the assurance that the surgeon was only dressing the wound. The next morning the king demanded to see the wound, and then, for the first time, discovered that a portion of the foot had been amputated; he angrily demanded the reasons for this procedure, but was quickly satisfied with Weiss's explanation; and grateful for the courage and ability displayed by the young surgeon, and having desired his tobacco-box to be brought to him, he therein deposited the portion of the foot which had been cut off, placing the box in the surgeon's hand, with the strictest injunctions to secrecy. The great man from Paris soon arrived. A consultation of the most eminent of the faculty was summoned; but, on the particulars of the case being stated to him, Petit at once pronounced the necessity of immediate amputation, and expressed astonishment and vexation that it had not been already done. This prompt and unexpected opinion, whilst it filled the bosoms of the greater part of the assembly with chagrin, reassured and encouraged the skilful young operator, who, stepping forward in the circle, presented the gold box with its contents to his venerable master. "Behold," said he, "the fruits of your discipline; the merit, if any, belongs to you, for I have learnt skill by *your* lessons of instruction, and boldness in danger by *your* example."

It is evident from the particulars of the foregoing example, that the anodyne must have been administered by inhalation, according to the mode already described in the extract from Joannes Baptista Porta on *Natural Magic*, and probably from a similar prescription. The universal employment of the Latin language by learned men at that period, whilst it tended to facilitate the general diffusion of knowledge, imparted a sameness of character to the theory and practice of all the learned professions, and accordingly one finds even at the present day, the Laudanum liquidum Sydenhami, even in more common use in Belgium and Germany, as an anodyne, than amongst ourselves.

I must be allowed to add one more quotation, in evidence of the common administration of anæsthetics. It is from Middleton's tragedy of *Women beware Women*, published in

1657, about the time of Augustus, the King of Poland, above referred to. The poet says :—

“ I'll imitate the pities of old surgeons
To this lost limb—who, ere they show their art,
Cast one asleep, then cut the diseased part.”

Every body at all acquainted with ancient books, must have observed the frequent allusions to the power of inhaled or inspired fumes.

Herodotus (I. 202) says that the Massagetæ were in the habit of casting the fruit of certain trees into the fire, and that all who sat near enough to inhale the smoke became drunken, heavy, and stupid, and some jumped from their seats and indulged in wild antics.

Camerarius says, “ That the force of making drunk doth not consist only in wine, but that there be some people which heretofore, and in this our time, have willingly, and by other means, provoked a furie or madnesse, continuing some hours. Whereof we have an example in the ancient Thracians, who in their feasts used to walk about the hearth and to cast into the fire certain seeds of herbs, the smoke whereof would make them fall asleepe after a short furie or madnesse.

Dioscorides, speaking of certain herbs, remarks that they cause sleep by smelling to the berries, and by too much smelling of these, persons lose their voice. Pliny makes a similar remark, but adds, “ It is sufficient to some to smell the root to prepare them for the operations of surgery.”

It has been my aim, in the preceding sketch of ancient medicine, as it relates to the employment of means for the relief or the prevention of pain, to shew, by reference to actual authorities, that from the earliest ages, drugs, and those not mere opiates, were given to patients about to undergo any severe operation, and that by these drugs perfect insensibility to pain, a dreamy state, or deep sleep, were produced ; effects not at all differing from those which we every day see as the consequence of the inhalation of ether and chloroform. I have further endeavoured to prove that this practice was continued up to a period little anterior to the present, certainly up to the end of the 17th century, and that not only were anæsthetic potions administered in the usual way by the mouth, but that certain essences, or the vapour of some compound preparations, were conveyed by inhalation into the lungs and circulation, through the nose, in a manner almost identical with that now adopted for the same purpose. It would have been easy to have multiplied proofs and illustrations of these propositions, but sufficient, I hope, has been said to interest the readers of the *The Zoist*

in the history of the many successful attempts which have been made by the professors of medicine, in all ages, to relieve human suffering, and to mitigate the severities of their art.

The questions that will naturally arise in the minds of all who have considered the subject, are, Why was the art of preventing the pain of operations discontinued? How was it lost? How is it that no one has hitherto collected the scattered recorded opinions of ancient and comparatively modern authors, and on their authority pronounced the possibility of at least lessening the sufferings of patients undergoing the tortures of the knife? In the first place, as an answer to the above enquiries, ancient authors have been consigned to their dusty resting place, on the upper shelves of our bookcases. The moderns, with a strong feeling of self-glorification, have pronounced medicine amongst the ancients to have been in its infancy, and amongst the alchymists and sage doctors of the middle ages, nothing more than magic; whereas, if they had opened the leaves of Porta on *Magic*, they would have found it,—what science is now,—an attempt to bring together the truths of nature, and to account for them. These may be some of the causes of the disuse into which the anæsthetics of former times fell; but the chief cause was undoubtedly their alliance with witchcraft. It has been commonly supposed that witchcraft was all a pretence, a false display of powers not possessed by the practitioner of this diabolical art. That is not the true view of the matter. Witches and wizards were actual poisoners, from the earliest periods. The word (Hebrew) *chausapt*, employed by Moses in the sacred scriptures, is translated *pharmakoi** in the septuagint, namely, a poison-giver, veneficus. The affectation of deriving their influence over men from another world, and in connexion with spirits and demons, was adopted to increase their importance, and to fortify their tyranny over the minds of the multitude; they themselves well knew the source of their terrible power. It was not in their superhuman association with fiends, nor in their ridiculous practices, nor in their midnightly meetings; the fearful and potent spell is traceable to the smoking cauldron—death is in the pot—from thence arise the fumes of the mandragora, the aconite, the poppy, the ant's nest, the henbane, and the valerian.†

* Exodus xxii. 18, &c.—*Zoist*.

† May not the occurrence of some fatal instances of the employment of anæsthetics, as in the case of ether and chloroform, have assisted to create a disinclination to employ them?—*Zoist*.

III. *The Musical Talents of Henry the Eighth.*

By Dr. ELLIOTSON.

“ MUSIC may tame the savage breast, *while* it is listened to, and *coöperate* with a good nature and good training to make men good. But it neither necessarily expands the intellect nor leads to virtue. Musical people are just as gross, unprincipled, and unfeeling as the man who has no music in his soul; neither better nor worse than equal numbers selected at random from the unmusical. The cerebral physiologist knows that the love of music depends solely on a very small portion of the brain, which may be defective while the moral and high intellectual organs are large, or be large while these are small.”

This I wrote in the eleventh number of *The Zoist*, for October, 1845. A few months afterwards, being at a concert of *Ancient Music*, when Prince Albert had selected the music for the evening, I became acquainted with a superb illustration of the fact. I need not mention the various vices of Henry the Eighth. The programme distributed in the concert room contained the following information :

“ANTHEM.* *King Henry the Eighth.*

“ O Lord, the maker of all things,
We pray Thee, now in this evening,
Us to defend, through thy mercy,
From all deceit of our enemies.

Let neither us deluded be,
Good Lord, with dream or fantasy ;
Our hearts waking in Thee Thou keep, .
That we in sin fall not on sleep.

O Father, through thy blessed Son,
Grant us this our petition ;
To whom with the Holy Ghost always
In heav'n and earth be laud and praise. Amen.”

* “ Henry the Eighth had studied music very seriously in his youth, according to Lord Herbert of Cherbury, who tells us, in his life, that ‘his education was accurate, being destined to the Archbishoprick of Canterbury, during the life of his elder brother, Prince Arthur. By these means, not only the more necessary parts of learning were infused into him, but even those of ornament, so that, besides being an able Latinist, philosopher, and divine, he was *a curious musician* ; as two entire Masses, composed by him, and often sung in his chapel, did abundantly witness.’

“ Burnet, though he denies, in his *History of the Reformation*, part I. p. 11. that Henry was ever intended for the church, yet allows that he was better edu-

IV. *Clairvoyance in a Dream.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ZOIST.

Sir,—As it has been intimated that authentic accounts of peculiar manifestations would not be unacceptable to *The Zoist*, I take leave to forward to you the following extract, from the narrative of a Captain Henry Bell, prefixed to his translation of *Luther's Colloquia Mensalia*. Captain Bell's work was published at London, 1652, in folio, and was printed in pursuance of an order made by the House of Commons, February 24th, 1846. The extract and the particulars relating to it, are to be found in a note by Sir John Hawkins in the third volume of his *History of Music* (published, 1776), from whence I have made the transcription.

ALFRED ROFFE.

48, Ossulston Street,
Somers Town.

After relating that the Emperor Rudolphus II., instigated by the Pope, had issued an edict, that all copies of *Luther's Colloquia Mensalia* should be burnt, and imposing the penalty of death on any one concealing the book, Captain Bell proceeds thus,—“It pleased God that anno. 1626, a German gentleman named Gasparus Van Sparr, with whom in the time of my staying in Germany about King James's business, I become very familiarly acquainted, having occasion to build upon the old foundation of a house wherein his grandfather dwelt at that time, when the said edict was published in Germany for the burning of the foresaid book, and digging deep into the ground under the said old foundation, one of the foresaid original printed books was there happily found, lying in a deep obscure hole, being wrapt in a strong linen cloth, which was waxed all over with bees'-wax, within and without, whereby the book was preserved fair, without any blemish.

“And at the same time, Ferdinand II. being Emperor of Germany, who was a severe enemy and persecutor of the Protestant Reformation, the aforesaid gentleman, and grand-

cated than any other prince had been for many ages, and that ‘he was a *good musician*, as appears by two whole Masses, which he composed.’ *Burnet*, vol. II., p. 572—3.

“Dr. Busby, in his *General History of Music*, vol. I., p. 498, states: ‘From Erasmus, and also Burnet, we learn that he set to music offices for the church; and in the books of the chapel royal, there is an Anthem of Henry's for four voices.’ ”

child to him that had hidden the said book in that obscure hole; fearing that if the said Emperor should get knowledge that one of the said books was yet forthcoming, and in his custody, whereby not only himself might be brought into trouble, but also the book in danger to be destroyed, as all the rest were so long before, and also calling me to mind, and knowing that I had the high Dutch tongue very perfect, did send the said original book over hither into England, unto me, and therewith did write unto me a letter, wherein he related the passages of the preserving and finding out of the said book.

“And also he earnestly moved me in his letter that for the advancement of God’s glory and of Christ’s church, I would take the pains to translate the said book, to the end that that most excellent divine work of Luther might be brought again to light.

“Whereupon I took the said book before me, and many times, began to translate the same, but always was hindered therein, being called upon, about other business, insomuch that by no possible means I could remain by that work. Then about six weeks after I had received the said book, it fell out, that I being in bed with my wife, one night between twelve and one of the clock, she being asleep, but myself yet awake, there appeared unto me an ancient man, standing by my bed-side, arrayed all in white, having a long white beard hanging down to his girdle-stead; who, taking me by my right ear, spake these words following unto me, ‘Sirrah, will not you take time to translate that book which is sent you out of Germany? I will shortly provide for you both time and place to do it.’ And then he vanished away out of my sight.

“Whereupon being much thereby affrighted, I fell into an extreme sweat, insomuch that my wife awaking and finding me all over wet, she asked me what I ailed; I told her what I had seen and heard, but I never did heed nor regard visions nor dreams, and so the same fell soon out of my mind.

“Then about a fortnight after I had seen that vision, on a Sunday I went to Whitehall to hear the sermon, after which I returned to my lodging, which was then in King Street, at Westminster, and sitting down to dinner with my wife, two messengers were sent from the whole council board, with a warrant to carry me to the keeper of the council, which was done without showing me any cause at all wherefore I was committed; upon which said warrant I was kept there ten whole years close prisoner, where I spent five

years about the translating of the said book ; insomuch as I found the words very true which the old man in the foresaid vision did say unto me, ' I will shortly provide for you both place and time to translate it.' "

The author then proceeds to relate that by the interest of Archbishop Laud, he was discharged from his confinement, with a present of forty pounds in gold. By a note in his narrative it appears, that the cause of his commitment was, that he was urgent with the Lord Treasurer for the payment of a long arrear of debt, due from the government to him.

V. *Cure of Loss of Voice : and benefit in two cases of Hysteria.*
By Mr. CHANDLER, Surgeon, Rotherhithe.

Aphonia instantly relieved by Mesmerism.

A short time since I was called to Miss H. K., who was cured of hysteria, by mesmerism in 1845 (see *Zoist*, Vol. III. p. 486). I found her unable to speak above a whisper, and even that was great exertion to her : she attributed it to cold, though she had not any cough, fever, or other catarrhal symptom ; she had been in this state four days. I sent her some medicine, but, on visiting her the next day and feeling convinced that the affection was purely hysterical, I proposed to mesmerise her, to which she at once assented. A few passes sent her into the sleep, in which state I kept her about ten minutes. On awaking her, to the surprize of all present, she spoke out, which she had not done for five days before. Her voice, however, left again in about five minutes. I mesmerised her again, and kept her asleep half an hour ; she then recovered her voice for some hours, but it left in the evening. The next day I mesmerised her for about twenty minutes, and left her a glass of water mesmerised, with directions to take a sip when her voice left. This always had the effect of restoring it, though only for a few minutes at a time : it nevertheless enabled her to converse with tolerable ease and comfort, and by dint of strict economy she made the glass of water last till my visit the following morning, when I of course mesmerised her, and left her another supply. I pursued this plan for a few days, finding the intervals between her loss of voice gradually getting longer and longer, until at last she only lost it on going up or down stairs rather quickly. After another two or three days, even this slight remains of the disorder left, nor has she since had any return of it. A curious phenomenon occurred in connection with the mesmerised water ; I told her only to take a sip to restore

the voice ; but on one occasion when I was present I requested her to take a mouthful, and told her it would send her to sleep. She took it but continued talking as before, and I considered the experiment had failed : she even remarked herself, " You see it has not taken effect." Great was my surprise, however, about three minutes after to find that she had fallen asleep ; and when I awoke her, she did not know that the water had sent her to sleep, but imagined that I had made a pass.*

Two Cases of Hysteria.

Susan D., a housemaid, æt. 18, suffered with constant head-ache, pains in the back and side, and other symptoms of hysteria ; there was also amenorrhæa, and her appearance was somewhat chlorotic. She came readily under the influence of mesmerism, and exhibited many of the minor phenomena, when in the sleeping-waking state, such as traction, phrenological phenomena, &c. She was after a short course of mesmerism restored to nearly perfect health ; but having to remove to some distance before she was quite fit to give up the remedy, she suffered a relapse ; and I have noticed the case for the purpose of showing how ignorantly some medical men permit themselves to talk of what they know nothing, and about which they take the greatest pains to remain in ignorance. She was suffering amongst other symptoms from intense head-ache, when the medical attendant of the family was sent for, who on learning what had previously been done for her, declared that she was sure to die, because she had been mesmerised. The poor girl herself constantly begged her friends to send for me, knowing how often I had given her immediate relief, when suffering in the same way. Her urgent requests were of course not complied with, and after *some months* of suffering she recovered her health, in spite of this learned doctor's sage opinion, and his drugs. The fact was, the symptoms were so severe, that he mistook the case for one of phrenitis, and gave his prognosis and treated it accordingly. Hysteria assumes so many forms that I can make every allowance for the mistake, but his blind and wilful ignorance with respect to mesmerism is unpardonable.

Lydia B., æt. 19, also in service, suffers frequently from hysterical fits. She is often found sitting in a chair quite unconscious and rigid. Some months ago, she was seized suddenly with severe pain in the right side, extending round

* See other cures of loss of voice, No. III., p. 335, 340 ; No. XIV., p. 243—4, 5 ; No. XIX., p. 302.—*Zoist*.

to the back, with great head-ache, but unaccompanied by fever or any inflammatory symptoms. I gave her medicine, applied mustard poultices, &c., for some hours without relief; indeed the pain increased, and became unbearable. Believing it to be hysterical, I proposed to mesmerise her; she readily assented; in three minutes she was asleep and cataleptic. The relief was of course immediate, but only temporary, returning in about an hour, and being as quickly relieved again. The following day her mother came and finding her quite useless, and not being able to remain to nurse her, determined on taking her home for a short time. She was leeched, blistered, and dosed to no purpose, only growing the worse for it all, but after about ten days the pain left almost as suddenly as it had come. She returned to her place, and remained tolerably well, until a sudden fright produced one of her fits of unconsciousness with rigidity. Whilst in this state, knowing how very susceptible she was, I began mesmerising her by touching her eyes with the points of my fingers. After about five minutes I found the rigidity had given away, and she had become cataleptic; I awoke her, and she expressed herself greatly relieved, and after remedies twice or three times, she was able to resume her work, whereas on former occasions she had been unfit for anything for the remainder of the day. She frequently suffers from pain in the side, and head-ache, which is always relieved by a few minutes mesmerism: but if she neglects to speak soon enough, she is certain to have a fit; and although she is quite aware of the benefit she always derives from mesmerism, the more she requires it, the more averse she is to ask for it.*

The following phenomena have presented themselves in this case:—very great susceptibility, insensibility to pain the second time of mesmerising, obedience to requests given during the sleep, to be executed on awaking, or at any stated time; she will also awake at any particular hour if desired to do so; she shows double consciousness to a great extent. I can make her imagine herself another person, when she will talk and act accordingly; she will also fancy me any person I may choose to tell her.

One evening when she had been mesmerised about a dozen times, I punched out a portion of a tooth for her, which operation lasted full a quarter of an hour; she showed no sign of suffering pain, and when I awoke her, she declared

* I have found this peculiarity in many other patients: it was particularly striking in Miss M. D.'s case, related in No. XVIII. of *The Zoist*: she would run away from me, when she most required mesmerising, whilst at other times she would appear anxious for my arrival.

her unconsciousness of the entire proceeding. Her general health is much improved, and the necessity for mesmerising her has become much less frequent.

VI. *Unconscious Delivery in the Mesmeric Sleep.* By Mr. CHANDLER, Surgeon, Rotherhithe.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ZOIST.

SIR,—I beg to forward you a short account of another mesmeric accouchment, being the second which has occurred in my practice.*

Mrs. Moss, æt. 26, whose tooth was extracted in the mesmeric sleep by Mr. Bell, in December, 1846, (*Zoist*, No. XVI., p. 573), became pregnant with her third child. I told her she could be delivered in the mesmeric sleep with just as much certainty and safety as her tooth had been drawn. She was of course quite willing, and I proposed to mesmerise her occasionally, just to keep up the influence. This, however, appeared unnecessary, for I soon found that her susceptibility had much increased since she became pregnant; whether on that account or not I will not pretend to say. The circumstance at least is worthy of observation, particularly as it recalls to my mind a little incident which occurred to me at the very commencement of my mesmeric career, viz., a lady, far advanced in pregnancy, who proved very susceptible at the first trial, but showed no susceptibility some months after her confinement, I having been afraid to continue to mesmerise her in the interval.

The question arises, are women more susceptible of the influence of mesmerism during pregnancy than at other times? Mrs. Moss formerly required passes for one or two minutes to send her to sleep, but now went off with a single pass, and instead of requiring fifteen or sometimes even twenty minutes for the loss of sensation to become perfect, travelling from the tips of the fingers to the crown of the head, it now left her in less than five minutes, the time shortening as her accouchment drew near, until at last when she was in labour, it left almost the instant she was mesmerised.

January 19th, 1848, at 4 p.m., she sent for me. I found she had been suffering very slight pains all the morning and that they were just beginning to increase. I immediately mesmerised her, and when the next pain, or rather I should

* For the first, see *Zoist*, No. XV., p. 405.

say, in this case, *effort* came, she said she felt nothing of it. The efforts, however, immediately became visibly very heavy and rapid, and she was delivered of a fine boy in twenty minutes after my arrival. The bearing down accompanied the efforts, just as in ordinary labour and just as in my former case, (*Zoist*, Vol. IV., p. 405;) and having now had the experience of two cases, I have no hesitation in pronouncing mesmerism *quite as safe* in midwifery cases as ether or chloroform.

My patient's surprise, when I awoke her and told her she was delivered, was most amusing. I immediately sent her off again and left her, ordering her to awake in an hour, which she did almost to a minute. I saw her again in the evening and found that her sensibility had not returned in any part. She was quite free from after-pains; though after her last confinement, she suffered severely from them. I mesmerised her for four or five minutes, to ensure a continuation of the loss of sensibility, and then awoke her and left her awake, giving her no opium. In the morning, I found her remarkably well, having passed an excellent night. I mesmerised her again for five minutes and left her. At my visit the following morning, I found her complaining of very slight after-pains, and her sensibility had partially returned. I mesmerised her for a few minutes, when the pains left and never returned. Two or three days after, I found her complaining of very *sore nipples*; nursing the baby caused her great agony. I mesmerised her a few minutes, and the next time she put the child to the breast, she *felt nothing of it*. She continues to go off with even half a pass; for the moment the points of the fingers come opposite to the eyes they are closed, and her sensation is entirely gone the same instant. This greatly increased susceptibility is certainly very curious.

This case was only more perfect than my former one, inasmuch as it was, in every respect, more favourable; being altogether as rapid as the other was lingering. The external, physical signs of labour were all present, though the patient was quite unconscious of any suffering.

I intended having at least one medical witness, but the rapidity of the labour prevented it.

My patient, Miss C., whose cure of hiccup of 12 years standing was reported, it may be thought rather prematurely, in the last *Zoist*, continues, I am happy to say, quite well, although she has not been mesmerised since.

VII. *Continuation of Captain Peach's Case, in a letter from Mr. Holland to Mr. Chandler; with a note by Mr. Chandler on the effects of Crystals on the Captain.*

Laurie Terrace, New Cross,
6th Dec., 1847.

My Dear Sir,—The marked mitigation effected by mesmerism in Captain Peach's case, has, upon the whole, been maintained up to the present period, but still his perfect restoration appears to be as far off as ever; the effort having been continued regularly above fourteen months, it must at length be presumed that the cause of his malady is organic, and that nothing beyond temporary relief can be expected. I know that such has been the opinion of Dr. Toulmin and yourself for some time past, and in consequence of your recent considerate suggestion, I am now gradually discontinuing my visits, with the intention, however, of seeing him occasionally, and being guided by circumstances. As regards the amount of relief afforded hitherto, I will only remark, that he has *not had the slightest return of the agony which he experienced in the lower part of the spine*, as mentioned in my former letters; this symptom was even more unbearable than the spasms which had tormented him so many years.

There have been some occurrences since my last communication, the detail of which may interest you.

In addition to the phenomena described in my former letters, one solitary instance of exaltation has occurred, very nearly allied to, if not identical with, the lucidity which has so frequently been witnessed in connection with the mesmeric influence. The fact has often been alluded to in my presence, of the Captain having announced the return of some friends from the country, without having received, in the ordinary way, any communication upon the subject. It seemed to him that he had paid the visit of welcome, and, among other minute particulars, he stated that he should shortly receive a small packet from these friends, the contents of which he accurately described; and he even accounted for the *absence* of something which it did *not* contain. The concluding fact was a knock at the door, when he exclaimed with the utmost confidence, "There are the ———," which was correct to the letter. I am not at liberty to be more explicit, as the subject had reference to family affairs.

About the middle of July last, I received a letter from a lady, residing in Cork, whose sympathy was excited from having read the Captain's case in *The Zoist*. She gave me

to understand that she had extensively diffused the blessings of mesmerism, and favoured me with some suggestions, as to treatment, for his benefit, which she had obtained from a lucid patient of hers, whilst in sleep-waking. The plan recommended comprised free and repeated ablutions with a tepid mixture of vinegar and water, to be continued for months, including a system of wet bandages, hot steeping, mesmeric passes, &c., &c. There were no adequate means of carrying out these well-meant suggestions; nevertheless, the Captain voluntarily persevered, for some weeks, in the application of the mixture indicated, by means of a sponge, and with apparent benefit, particularly in respect of gaining flesh; which fact his personal attendant repeatedly noticed in the region of the spine: the process, however, was discontinued, the patient having experienced a return of spasm in the wrists and hands, which he attributed to their long exposure in a wet state during the operation. He described the immediate effects of the agent employed to be, first, a slight chill; then a warm glow, which continued unabated for a considerable time after the sponging was completed, and his toilet finished: he also noticed, that in rubbing the parts wetted, the downward stroke occasioned the mixture to "dry in quickly," but not so when rubbed in any other direction.

I have occasionally presented exceedingly strong liquid ammonia to the patient's nostrils, whilst mesmerised; in every instance he merely turned his face, very deliberately, on one side, although when demesmerised, he complained that the inside of his nose felt "dry, hot, and raw," without, however, betraying any cognizance of the cause.

On two occasions, Mr. Broadwater, residing at Poplar, a medical friend of Dr. Toulmin, administered nitrous oxide to the Captain, having found that this gas had a tendency to further mesmeric results; hardly any effect was produced on the first occasion, beyond a slight sensation of fullness; but on the second, the Captain felt quite intoxicated or stupified. I tried transverse passes, in order to disperse the effect, but without success; I then mesmerised him in the usual way; he was quickly affected, and as easily demesmerised, all trace of the prostration occasioned by the gas having simultaneously disappeared.

In the course of the last few months many friends have called, not having seen him for a considerable time, and have been agreeably surprized at his improved appearance.

I have lately tried the effect of crystals; he invariably says that they occasion a feeling of contraction; whether he is mesmerised or not, they always set up a spasmodic action

in the fingers: they also mesmerise him as effectually as the hand. On the first occasion, I presented a fine crystal of calc spar between the brows (he was not aware that I was doing so); in a short time he remarked, "I wish I could have felt so last night." This was afterwards explained to refer to a feeling of tranquillity which was stealing over him, and which would have been exceedingly welcome the night previous, the whole of which had passed without sleep, from sheer restlessness.

Not long since he informed me, for the first time, that he received a very severe kick from a horse (in the region of the kidneys) at the Cape, in 1816, the effects of which he occasionally experienced up to the commencement of his long illness, which he connects, in some measure, with this accident.

At the present moment, and for some time past, he remains tolerably comfortable,—although relapses of more or less frequency and severity have occurred since the date of my last communication,—he is fully sensible of the benefit which he has derived from mesmerism, and I can only hope that its partial relaxation may not be prejudicial.

Believe me, my dear Sir, very truly yours,

J. HOLLAND.

Thomas Chandler, Esq.

I beg leave to subjoin the copy of a note made the moment I returned from seeing Captain Peach a short time since, in corroboration of Mr. Holland's experiments with the crystals.

Nov. 5th. Went to see Captain Peach with Mr. Holland; found him looking very much better. Mr. H. has been trying experiments with crystals on him *à la Reichenbach*. To satisfy myself of their accuracy, I took an opportunity, whilst all in the room were engaged in conversation, of taking up a large and perfect crystal of calcareous spar, and applying it within half an inch of Captain P.'s forehead; taking great care that he should not suspect what I was doing. After about a minute his eyes began to water, just as they do when Mr. H. looks at him with the intention of mesmerising him by a look, and he spoke to Mr. Holland; evidently expecting to find him near, and in the act of mesmerising him,—though Mr. H. was at the further side of the room. I was quite satisfied, and allowed Mr. H. to finish getting him off. I then, without making any remark, took up the same crystal, and held it towards the palm of his hand; the fingers began to contract in a few seconds, and the hand to follow the crystal.

Captain Peach's total blindness makes these experiments very satisfactory.

THOMAS CHANDLER.

VIII.—*Rapid Cure of Inflammatory Swollen Face, Acute Gout, of Spasms of the Chest with Involuntary Movements of one Arm, with local Mesmerism; and Cure of severe Pains of the Head, with Mesmerism.* By Mr. G. H. BARTH. Communicated by Dr. Elliotson, to whom the account was addressed in a Letter.

Great Parndon, Essex,
December 14.

Dear Sir.—I believe you are always willing to accept facts proving the utility of mesmeric applications, and therefore subjoin a few which are at your service in any way if they can be made useful. We may convince the public, although no ordinary or extraordinary amount of evidence will convince some of our medical detractors. We may liken them to the culprit at the halberts who could not be satisfied. He was either hit too high or he was hit too low; "Hit him how I would, I could not please him," said the drummer. Adduce a case of disease cured, which has required long-continued mesmeric treatment; they declare it has been cured spontaneously, by "an effort of nature;" that "it would have been all the same without your mesmerism." Show them a case of immediate relief or cure by mesmerism, and they call it "all fancy," "imagination," "the patient's sufferings were more imaginary than real, therefore mesmerism is as likely to cure as anything else;" or "he still suffers, but you have excited his imagination and persuaded him not to feel his sufferings;" or again, "Ah! I have often known patients quite eased of a severe toothache as soon as they saw the instruments produced for extracting the tooth; it is just the same with mesmerism, you only frighten the pain away, it will be sure to return again: you cannot call that curing." As to the return again, when patients declare to the contrary why not believe them? Are persons cured medically alone worthy of credence? As to the "frightening away," I presume it matters little to persons enduring severe pain whether it be drawn away or driven away mesmerically, or frightened away, or purged away, or vomited away, or thrown off by the skin, so that it only be got rid of. Will any one prove that the mesmeric is a less elegant, a less delicate, a less safe method than by the action of a cathartic, an emetic, or diaphoretic? Professors of "the healing art," who refuse to extend their knowledge of "the art of healing," and venture to call mesmerists "fools," or dub them "humbugs and impostors," must be left to the operation of *time*; they will be cured of their unbelief, eventually, by "*an effort of nature*;"

mesmerism, or a general conviction of its utility by their patients, will just "frighten" the sceptical disease away.

Sarah Pavit, wife of Joshua Pavit, gardener, of this parish, a stout robust woman, about 40. Saw her on the evening of last April 22nd, leaning on a table, face buried in pillows and head enveloped in flannel. The left side of her face was enormously swollen; so much so, that the jaws could not be opened sufficiently wide for my finger to pass betwixt the front teeth. Had been suffering for three days and nights, described the pain as darting and throbbing, excruciating, worse than any toothache; it affected that side from the top of her head nearly to the shoulder; would rather undergo a "lying-in" because that would be sooner over. Had "tried warm fomentations and other applications in vain; could get no ease night or day; had not closed her eyes or been able to keep in bed for three nights; felt quite light-headed and as if she must lose her senses." I knew Mrs. Pavit well, and her replies were delivered in a tone and manner different from that which is natural to her. Believing that local mesmerism would relieve her, I suggested it. *She received my suggestion with a very significant grunt, as if she thought me ridiculing her distress.* I had, therefore, to explain my intention and point out that she was the party to be benefitted; if I was willing to take the trouble she ought to be willing to take my offer. She replied she did not believe that mesmerising could do her any good, but she was willing to do anything to get some ease. I mesmerised the affected part locally; she felt the influence like a cool wind. In about *ten* minutes she declared that the pain was *not so bad*; it had *left her head and neck* and she only felt it in the cheek and gum; in *ten* minutes more the throbbing pain was *gone entirely*, but she felt the inside of her cheek painful and tender. On feeling externally the place indicated, I found a hard tumor as large as a marble. I mesmerised her ten minutes longer, and left her exclaiming with astonishment and thankfulness at the ease she experienced. Next morning she complained of pain in her gum, which was easily mesmerised away and gave no more trouble. The swelling of the cheek and tumor of the gum had *disappeared*, had certainly been absorbed during the night. She had been very subject to tooth and faceache previously, but has not had any pain of the kind since.*

William Standen, residing at Great Parndon, had an attack of gout about twelve months since. It commenced in

* See a similar cure by one of our archbishops, in No. XII., p. 513.—*Zoist*.

the great toe of the right foot, and in two days the left foot was also affected. Had *skilful medical assistance* and was able to return to his duties in about a fortnight; having been confined to bed for eight days of the time. On the 8th of July last he had a similar attack of gout in the great toe of the right foot. I saw it and proposed trying mesmerism the next day, if it was not better. Next morning the redness and swelling had increased and extended, and the pain was described as severe. I saw the external appearances, *but did not feel the pain*, and yet I believed his assertion, and made passes over the foot with the intention of relieving him. In about *ten* minutes he declared that he *no longer felt any pain*; and I had no reason to suppose he stated that which was untrue. In some four or five hours the pain returned, but *ceased on the foot being mesmerised*. Next day the swelling had disappeared, but some pain was felt; mesmerised it away as before. On the third day the disease was but slightly perceptible; mesmerised the foot twice during the day. On the *fourth* day there was *neither pain, tenderness, nor redness*. I made a few passes by way of preventing relapse, when, to my surprize, the foot immediately became red. This redness soon disappeared when I discontinued the passes, (in the course of an hour or so), but for several days was reproduced whenever I made passes over the foot. The passes were made *without contact*: at the second pass four or five red streaks appeared, and as the passes were continued more streaks, until the whole blended or united. When the red streaks ceased to appear, I considered the cure complete and ceased mesmerising. Wm. Standen's former attack prevented him attending to his duty for a fortnight, and he endured much pain: during this latter attack, he attended to his duty as usual, and the pain was subdued by a few mesmeric passes. In this case not anything was tried but local mesmerism and two doses of *hydr. cum creta et jalap.**

John Burton, aged 30, Ty Green, labourer. This man, who was a perfect stranger to me, called February 23rd, 1846, to request some trifling service. I saw that he was partially blind, and on enquiry learned that he was, and had been for nine months, an out-patient at the Eye Infirmary, Moor Fields, and had received medical assistance before his admission there. He said his sight was "getting worse and worse every week, and the doctors at the Infirmary feared they

* For mesmeric cures of acute gout by Mr. H. S. Thompson, see No. XVII., p. 81; and of inflammatory rheumatism, No. V., p. 86; VI., p. 257; VII., p. 360, 380; XVIII., p. 155.—*Zoist*.

could do little more for him ;” that he also “suffered from severe pain in the head, generally commencing when he went to bed ; his mother, with whom he lived, was often obliged to sit up at night to keep his head cool with cloths soaked in water and vinegar ;—he was never free from pain, and his life was a burden and misery to him.” Had been repeatedly cupped and blistered ; had swallowed plenty of physic, and had “hot stuff” put into his eyes. The blisters always relieved him for a few hours ; nothing else tried ever gave him any relief. Had received, some years ago, a very severe blow with a spade on his head. This case did not seem a hopeful one, but as mesmerism has often cured after medicine and surgery have failed, I felt it to be a matter of duty to try and do some service to this poor man. Told him as they gave him no hope of cure at the Infirmary he would not be doing wrong to discontinue their medicine a few weeks, and if he would call on me every day I thought I could do him some good and perhaps benefit his sight. At first, his sight improved rapidly, then retrograded, and remains now very little better than when I commenced. The disease, which was progressing, seemed arrested ; but the mischief done could not be repaired. The first effect of mesmerism on the pain was to make the man feel much worse. After a few day’s treatment he became quite angry with me, and complained that I had “done him more harm than good,” “that the pain used to be bad enough in his head, but now it was all over him ; he felt it in every limb, even in his feet ; he could not think what I had done to him, he did not *feel* as if he was himself, but just like being another person. When he walked he did not feel as if he touched the ground ; it was more like flying ; it seemed to him that he did fly, though he knew very well he was still walking.” The hope of recovering his sight induced him to let me persevere, or I believe he would not have come near me. At the end of three weeks the pain had quitted his head and limbs ; his general health and strength improved, and he felt himself, in his own words, “as good a man as ever he was in his life, barring the eyes.” I mesmerised him daily for five consecutive months, hoping that the disease, which was called an affection of the optic nerves, might be cured. He became heavy and drowsy under the influence, but never went to sleep. Long passes from head to feet deprived him of voluntary power of motion ; though quite awake and conscious, he could not rise from his chair until demesmerised. Passes over the head caused a sensation of great weight ; he used to feel his neck with his hands as he thought it was bulged out by the weight on his head. All

downward passes felt warm ; all upward or transverse passes caused a cold sensation. The nearer my fingers the stronger his sensation ; but it was quite perceptible at a distance of seven or eight feet. I mesmerised two sovereigns and put one at the back of his neck, under the cravat, and the other in his right hand, telling him to hold it. In five minutes I asked for it. His fingers were firmly closed and he began unlocking them with his left hand. I said, "That is not what I mean ; open your hand and let me take it, Burton." He declared that he could not, his hand and arm having "*gone to sleep*." I unclasped the fingers partially, took out the gold and popped a piece of iron rod in, telling him to hold it. I asked for it in a few minutes : he handed it to me without difficulty, the spasm of the fingers was relaxed ; he said the stiffness and numbness of his arm had gone off. This experiment was strikingly conclusive of the truth of your statements, made long since, of the mesmeric effects of gold and iron. The man is an ignorant though decent country labourer ; he could not know what I anticipated by placing gold and afterwards iron in his hand ; he was not asleep but in his normal state, and yet *your declared effects* were verified.* I made an experiment with him, which, as far as I am aware, has not been tried by other mesmerists. Having a powerful electro-magnetic machine in action, I desired to know if any difference would be felt in the sensation caused by mesmeric passes, if he communicated with one end of the intensity or secondary coil and I the other, of course *passes without contact*. I placed one conductor in his hand and the other, with a long wire attachment, in my coat pocket. Standing behind him, I made passes over his head and down the spinal column with one hand at about two inches distance. "Do you feel anything, Burton?" "Yes Sir, I feel you mesmerising me all down my back, quite warm." I grasped the conductor in my pocket with the other hand, continuing the passes. "Do you still feel me mesmerising you?" "Yes, plain enough, but you have altered it, it stings and pricks me now ; I can bear it, but I do'nt like the feel." This I have several times repeated ; standing behind him, with the conductor in my pocket, he could not know when I grasped or loosened it ; but his sensations were, invariably, in accordance with my act. "That is nice and warm," "there is the

* These were the precise results of precisely the same experiments made upon the two Okeys by me, and witnessed by hundreds of persons, and by Mr. Wakley among the rest, who could make no other reply than, "Why, hav'nt people been touching gold ever since the creation of the world without growing stiff?" The philosopher forgot that people had not been mesmerised before they touched gold.—JOHN ELLIOTSON.

tinkling come again?" he meant tingling. This experiment has succeeded beautifully with others whom I have tried it on, and, also, failed with subjects who were highly susceptible of the mesmeric influence.

I was so fortunate, a few weeks ago, as to cure at one sitting, (to the patient's friends it was miraculous), a severe and distressing case of nervous spasms in the chest with involuntary motion of one arm. But I have already far exceeded my intended limits.

It seems the profession are now anxious, in painful operations, to profit by the mesmerists' example; humanity has its claims in favour of the patients acknowledged. All the advantages secured by the induction of mesmeric coma are desired; but *desired independently* of the *mesmeric process*; the *effect* is wanted without its antecedent, the *cause*. The new anæsthetic—chloroform, is to supersede ether. I sincerely hope it may answer the expectations of its advocates. Chemically, it is related to the ethereal family. Will an overdose, or too frequent inhalation, kill a patient? Can it be repeated as often as may be needful to allay a patient's suffering after a capital operation? Will the patient be stronger and better in proportion as he inhales its vapour in larger quantities or more frequently? These are the questions by which to test the relative value of mesmerism and other pain-preventing agents. Have you perused the letter of "an hospital surgeon" in the *Medical Times* of the 4th instant? Laudanum in excessive doses, to soothe the agonies afterwards felt by patients who had been etherised and underwent painless operations, was administered in "an hospital surgeon's" cases. Why not have etherized again and again? I presume "an hospital surgeon" had no desire to kill the sufferers. As truth must ever prevail over the false, it requires no gift of prophesy to foresee the time, when a medical school will not be acknowledged complete without its mesmeric professorship. I trust you may be spared to fill the first chair, and am,

Dear Sir, your obedient servant,

G. H. BARTH.

IX. *Case of Epilepsy cured by the Mesmeric Influence, after the signal Failure of Medicine.* By Mr. JOHN WICKENS WEST, Surgeon, Poole.

THE subject of the following narrative is a young lad, by the name of George Buttress, aged 17, by occupation a blacksmith, residing in Poole, Dorset. In the month of February last, he was seized with epileptic fits, which continued to

attack him daily for the space of three months. A fit frequently lasted a whole day, and sometimes throughout the night. His attacks were so violent, that his parents were compelled to watch him continually, and they scarcely knew what a night's rest was for several months. During this period he was under a judicious mode of treatment, and attended by a medical man of considerable experience, who tried almost every remedy the routine of practice suggested. He became my patient on my succeeding as Parish-Surgeon to the district in which he lived, about the middle or latter end of March last. The fits were then very frequent and violent, coming on with general convulsions, total insensibility, complete loss of intelligence, pupils immovable, and teeth firmly closed. I administered small doses of the nitrate of silver in the form of pills, at the same time keeping up a moderate action in the bowels by means of aloetic purges. This plan had little or no effect, and the fits continued to follow him with scarcely any intermission. At the suggestion of his parents, who had heard of the extraordinary cures which mesmerism had effected in similar nervous and intractable disorders, I assented to perform the operation on him, which I did in the presence of two clergymen of the town. The first time he was placed under its influence, it had a very peculiar effect on him; his eyes were open and fixed as in epilepsy,—pupils dilated; and he continued for three quarters of an hour in a complete state of insensibility. I attempted two or three times to demesmerise him, but could not succeed, so complete was the stupor: he recovered without assistance. I mesmerised him several weeks, at intervals of two or three days, and I am pleased to relate, from the first time the operation was performed on him, he has never had a relapse, and has been, independent of a slight affection of one knee, in perfect health ever since. I have no doubt, had the epilepsy continued on him, his intellects would have been impaired.

The above is a good illustration of the power which mesmerism is capable of exercising over the nervous system; and when it comes into more general use, its great efficacy in such cases will be more appreciated. I would just mention, that since my success in the above instance, a case of amaurosis has fallen under my care, in which every remedy was tried, without any good effect. I mesmerised the individual several times, and he sufficiently recovered his sight to enable him to read a few lines in the Bible. I have not heard of him lately, and cannot therefore state whether the effect was permanent or not.

Poole, 17th December.

JOHN WICKENS WEST,
Surgeon, M.R.C.S.L.

- X. *Mesmeric cure of a severe Affection of the Heart*, by Miss WALLACE, of Laurel Lodge, Cheltenham. Communicated as a letter from the patient to that lady.

MADAM,—As you wished me to state my case in full for publication, I will begin from the beginning.

About two years ago, I was first troubled with palpitations of the heart, and they became so violent, I applied at the dispensary for relief.

Dr. Ackworth, under whose care I was placed, is a very nice gentleman, and very skilful, but he told me, mine was a diseased heart, *which never could be cured*. I replied, "Bless the Lord; it might be worse; I can die happy." Dr. Ackworth put out his hand, and said, "Then you are a happy man."

I remained a dispensary patient about eighteen months, getting no better, and several times when Dr. Ackworth saw me, he said, it was a wonder to him to see me alive, and he cautioned me to live carefully, for it was probable, I should be called suddenly. Last July, on a very hot day, I took down a barrow of coals for your cook, and was sitting on the steps, suffering such violent pain and convulsions of the heart, that I thought there was not a minute between me and eternity.

You came in from walking, and said, "My man, are not you very ill?" I said, I was very ill, with a disease of the heart, which the doctor said I never could get over. You questioned me minutely, how long I had had it, and what were the symptoms I felt. When I told you all, you looked me right in the face, and said, "With God's assistance, I think, I can cure you." I was struck with astonishment to hear a lady say, with such authority, that she could cure me, but the manner you spoke gave me great faith, and I believed you could.

According to your desire I prayed fervently, that if it was the Lord's blessed will, I might be cured. From the very moment you began, my heart became perfectly quiet, and has never been convulsed since. I was first mesmerised on Tuesday, and on Sunday, when washing my hands to go to chapel, my heart gave a plunge, and seemed as if it was turned round. When I told you this, you said you believed I was cured, and so I was, for since that time, my heart has been as well, and lies as quiet as it did thirty years ago, and I am able to follow my business, go to Gloucester with my horse and cart, walk above twenty miles, there and back

again ; load and unload my goods, and find myself perfectly well.

I am most thankful to God for my cure, which I think one of the greatest miracles under the creation, and I wish for the benefit of others my cure should be made public. I should wish my residence to be related, and me and my family will testify on oath, the truth of my wonderful cure.

Signed, WILLIAM PENN.

Wife and Son of William Penn, { ANNE PENN.
JOHN PENN.

Sherborne Street,
Nov. 14th, 1847.*

ESSAYS ON PHRENOLOGY. No. I.

XI. *On an Organ of Sympathy, seated between Comparison and Benevolence.* By Mr. T. SYMES PRIDEAUX.

AT the age of fifteen, looking over some old medical journals that had belonged to my father, I chanced to alight on an article on Dr. Gall's system of Craniology, in the *Medical and Physical Journal*, for March, 1806, containing a faithful account of Dr. Gall's visiting the House of Correction and the Hospital of Torgau in Saxony, the 4th and 5th of July, 1805, to which was appended a plate depicting the position of the twenty-seven organs then discovered.

The narrative profoundly interested me, and I remember, as if it were but yesterday, the steps by which my mind arrived at conviction. Dr. Gall's predication of the characters of the prisoners, from their heads, so closely agreed with the description previously written down by the chaplain and steward, from an experience of their conduct and a knowledge of their crimes, (and which description the doctor had not been allowed to see,) that I instantly rejected, as absurd, the idea that such a remarkable agreement could be a mere coincidence,—the result of accident. According to the doctrine of probabilities, the chances against such an occurrence were thousands to one, and to have formed such a conclusion would have been an outrage on common sense. This point decided, the next was to enquire whether there could have been any collusion between the authorities of the prison and the doctor. The station and office of the parties, and, above all, the absence of any previous acquaintanceship proclaimed this supposition

* See Mr. H. S. Thompson's cure of a similar case, in No. XIX., p. 289, where are references to two others in former numbers.—*Zoist*.

to be in the highest degree improbable. Was it possible the whole account was a hoax,—a tale coined by the brain of some writer of fiction in the pursuance of his avocation? The circumstance of the narrative making its appearance in a scientific journal forbade such a conclusion. There appeared then, no alternative but to accept it as demonstrated, that the German doctor had really discovered certain signs for man's internal faculties, and that the development of the former and the manifestation of the latter stood in the relationship of cause and effect; that, in short, the science of phrenology had its foundations in nature, and constituted a great Fact.

Such a revelation of the constitution of humanity seemed like the discovery of a new world; such a key to the character and motives of the beings by whom I was surrounded,—a new Aladdin's lamp, which revealed treasures of knowledge more precious than gold. I immediately became possessed with the most insatiable curiosity to know my own development and that of every body by whom I was surrounded, in order to compare the agreement of the external sign with what I knew of our capacities and dispositions. To be able to do this, previous study and observation were required, for I found myself, at the outset, quite incapable of forming a conclusion as to the size of the organs, and I saw clearly that to be enabled to do so, a general idea of the outline of average heads must be obtained, and repeated comparisons between dissimilar ones instituted. I procured *Combe's Elements of Phrenology* and studied it with attention, and after having made myself familiar with the position of the organs, resolved to commence my own personal observation with the most decided case I could procure.

In the town where I then resided, lived a boy of about ten years of age, of rather weak intellect, and known to all the inhabitants for his pilfering propensities. When not at school, he roamed the streets from morning till night, raking in gutters and searching in the dust heaps for old nails, bits of cork, wood, leather, cardboard and such like articles; or else loitering at the doors of shops in quest of plunder; when, if he chanced to espy a bit of coloured paper or other showy object which particularly fascinated his attention, so strongly would he covet it, that, overcoming his natural timidity, which was very great, he would rush and seize it at the risk of being caught and beaten, and then make off with it. The articles acquired in these predatory wanderings were carried home and hid in holes in the wall or buried in the garden.

His parents, who were religious people, deeply afflicted

at this propensity of their son, did all in their power to discourage and suppress it. Often catching him immediately on his return from his rambles, they emptied his pockets, dispossessed him of the result of his labours and beat him for his pains: often searching the garden for his concealed stores, they destroyed them before his eyes, reproved him for his conduct, and to make the lesson more impressive, concluded it by a flogging. All their endeavours to eradicate the habit, however, proved equally fruitless, and their only effect on the child seemed to be to stimulate him to conceal his acquisitions with more cunning. Here then, I said to myself, if anywhere, a large organ of Acquisitiveness should be found, something so marked that even a learner like myself should be competent to appreciate it and be able to detect a decided deviation from the average outline; and accordingly, I determined to select this lad as the object of my first experiment. Having succeeded in catching him, who shall describe my pleasure and surprise at discovering, not only a large and well-defined protuberance at the organ of Acquisitiveness, but also that the breadth of the head at this part was as great as above the ears. Numberless, have been my phrenological observations since this period, numerous, the striking and pleasing confirmations of phrenological truth I have received, many, the still more gratifying verifications of ideas and suggestions of my own, but none have ever reproduced the thrilling sensation of delight I experienced on this occasion.

Soon after this occurrence, I paid a visit to a phrenologist in a neighbouring town, to whom I had procured an introduction and who was aware of my anxiety for information on the subject. Scarcely had I entered his presence before he exclaimed, "Why, you are a musician." No essay could have been more unfortunate as an introductory display of the powers of the science; for it so happened, that only a few weeks previously, desirous of learning to sing, I went to take a first lesson in the art, when my ear, as it is termed, proved so defective that I could not master the gamut, and having fully satisfied myself of my extreme dullness and stupidity with regard to musical science, I abandoned the attempt.

I have known some infinitely silly people who, on account of a failure of this kind, have at once rejected phrenology. No proceeding, however, can more infallibly indicate a feeble and superficial mind, since no amount of errors committed by individual observers, can invalidate the conclusions once formed by an adequate induction from positive facts. We all know that it is easy to form *rash* judgments, and every sensible man knows likewise that it is easy to form even *erroneous*

judgments cautiously, when our knowledge is incomplete; that such errors are, in fact, inseparable from the infancy of all sciences, and necessary preliminaries to their advancement. The same circumstances which present doubts and difficulties to the thoughtless, stimulate the intelligent cultivator of science to further research, furnish him with the very materials out of which he constructs a fresh pillar for the edifice, and are, in reality, fraught with the most instruction. In science, it may be truly said, the stumbling blocks of the simple, are directing-posts to the wise.

The question to be solved was, *what was the real explanation of the error*, which at first sight certainly appeared somewhat startling? The head could not in reality justify the prediction, or the opinion of Gall, as to the seat of the organ of Music, must be erroneous. In the first place, the adjoining organs of Number, Order, and Constructiveness being large, gave a breadth and fulness to the head in this region, which, supposing a very slight error committed in the estimate of position, might readily lead to the belief that the cerebral convolutions upon which musical talent depended, were much more fully developed than was really the fact. In the second place, though so deficient in the capacity of appreciating the *pitch* of sound, I was by no means insensible to the charms of music. A military band always excited me in the highest degree, and a single air which appealed to the feelings, and came spontaneously from the heart of the singer, called up emotions which neither the finished *roulades* of the most accomplished artists, nor the more scientific combinations of the orchestra ever succeeded in awaking. In fact my perceptions, with regard to certain qualities of sound, were singularly acute, and deemed by many fastidious. Few were better judges of the relative merits of two instruments of the same kind with respect to the richness of quality of their tone, notwithstanding that one might be half a note higher or lower than the other, without my being able to distinguish it. My discrimination and memory of voices was also extraordinary, and attended with equally marked likings and antipathies to individuals in consequence. Here then was ample ground for concluding that the region of the forehead, the general development of which had been found by Gall to be ample in musicians, should not as a *whole* present any *very* marked deficiency in my head. The musical talent it was evident required analysis; and had my forehead presented that complete shelving off, of the lateral portions, observable in some persons incapable of even comprehending the idea of music, and who declare that they perceive nothing more

musical or agreeable in the sound of a piano than in the rumbling of a cart wheel,* then would phrenology have been greatly at fault.

A few months after the occurrence just related, I was present, for the first time, at a surgical operation,—the amputation of a leg above the knee. The operator, noticing the attention with which I watched the preliminary proceedings, called me forward, though the youngest in the room, to hold the limb. Such was the diseased state of the bone, that the catlin was never laid aside till the limb was off; but upon turning round with my burden, I missed two of my companions,—two young friends who had each been studying surgery upwards of a year, and had already had an opportunity of habituating themselves to such spectacles,—yet they had felt sick and faint, and been obliged to withdraw. In pursuit of my favourite employment of analyzing peculiarities of character, and tracing them to their appropriate cerebral organs, I sought to refer the difference between my friends and myself to some difference in our organization. According to the received phrenological doctrines either their Destructiveness should be small, or moderate, or their Benevolence of an unusual size, and their heads might be expected to contrast greatly in these particulars with mine. Such however was not the case; and I knew in addition that they manifested no less fondness for the rod and the gun than myself; and with the utmost desire to form an impartial and correct judgment, I could not come to the conclusion that they possessed greater Benevolence. In short, after much cogitation, I felt myself at fault for a solution, and came in the end to the conviction that the recognized assemblage of organs were inadequate to this end. Thus at a very early period I became firmly impressed with the belief that no quantitative admixture of the known organs was competent to explain certain varieties of character, but that new and qualitatively different primitive faculties remained to be discovered. Many years however elapsed before I ventured to form any conclusions as to their nature.

At a subsequent period, I repeatedly saw students in London obliged to leave the operating theatre, in spite of all their gradual training to such scenes during their apprenticeship in the country, and at once attributed their conduct to the existence in a still higher degree, of the same peculiarity of organization which had overpowered my young friends at the

* A literal transcript of the declaration of a clergyman, whose peculiar idiosyncrasy I had just discovered, and whose forehead presented a shelving at the corners very similar to Anne Ormerods.

first operation I witnessed. Dining shortly afterwards at the house of an elderly gentleman, the conversation after dinner chanced to fall on the spectacle of public executions, when my host expressed himself as quite horrified at the idea, and depicted in vivid colours the shock his feelings received, and the faint sickness that came over him from having, by accident and unawares, caught sight of two men hanging. Here I felt assured I had in the person of my entertainer another specimen of the idiosyncrasy before alluded to. This time I did not let the subject drop, but perpetually turned it over in my mind during my moments of leisure, endeavouring to conceive the nature of a faculty competent to produce the results I had remarked.

That something besides Benevolence was concerned in it I had long ago fully convinced myself; for I had seen it exhibited in certain cases with an actual callousness to the sufferings of others, provided the individual could escape witnessing them, and banish them from his imagination. In fact, from having narrowly watched and pondered on the conduct of certain parties, I had been enabled to conceive the possibility of the existence of two men,—one an impersonation of selfishness, who, for a trifling advantage to himself, could condemn, without pity, a fellow man to the rack, or to be broken on the wheel, and yet be unable himself to be present and witness his torments; and another, full of Benevolence, ready to sacrifice all he possessed to ransom the sufferer, who could yet, if duty demanded, stand firmly by and be a spectator of his pangs. Such phenomena seemed to demand for their explanation *a faculty which translated the expression of emotion in sentient beings in such clear and deep characters, that the organization of the recipient involuntarily vibrated in response, and participated in the feelings, whether of pleasure or pain, of the object observed.* A faculty half affective, half intellectual, having for its function the linking of sentient nature together in one sympathetic bond, and by means of which animals become participators in the mental states of those with whom they come in contact. An organ greatly inferior in dignity to Benevolence, yet nevertheless, from serving as its eye, greatly conducive to its action.

The more I reflected on the subject the more the necessity for such a faculty became apparent, and the more I became convinced of its existence. The next point was to determine its position, and here, guided by analogy from the nature of its function, I did not hesitate to assign it a seat between Comparison and Benevolence, to both which organs it had evidently an intimate relationship. For a long time previ-

ously, I had been of opinion that a space intervened between these two organs, from having observed that in those cases where the outline of Benevolence could be traced, Comparison would require to be prolonged backwards to twice its length, in order to join it; and I saw, upon subsequent consideration, that the assigned position on the mesial line, accorded with the high importance and indispensable nature of the faculty. I immediately placed all the casts of criminals I possessed side by side, and in all guilty of cold-blooded and deliberate murder, I saw, to my great pleasure, a marked deficiency in development at this spot. In no other single point did they all so universally correspond. The great restraining power of the organ of Sympathy seems to arise from its making the perpetrator of cruelty so conscious of, and alive to, the sufferings of the victim, that if Benevolence be not all but absolutely wanting, the crime will be shrunk from.

Upon recalling to mind the shape of the head of the gentleman who had so vividly described his feelings of horror at the sight of an execution, I clearly recollected that it was remarkable for its prominence at this spot, the forehead being high, and the coronal surface prolonged forward to meet it in a curve so much bolder than usual as to constitute quite a peculiarity in the head, which was left in the memory as its distinguishing characteristic. It is difficult to imagine a better illustration of a small and large development of the portion of brain in question, than that presented by the heads of Lord Eldon and Basil Montagu, (see *Zoist*, Vol. I., p. 271.) The former cold and impassive—the advocate and supporter of the punishment of death for the most trifling thefts; the latter the great agitator for its abolition, who suffered agony at the idea of an execution, never slept the night previous, and before daylight would walk up and down on the south side of Lincoln's-inn-fields, listening to the tolling of St. Sepulchre's bell. Of course Benevolence was also very large, or he would have spared his feelings by shunning all proximity to the scene, instead of labouring in behalf of the condemned; but I conceive that without the organ of Sympathy had been large, though he might have equally deplored and pitied the lot of the criminal, as a matter of fact, he would not have been a vivid participator in his agony. In his lordship's head Comparison appears prominent, and the line of the head immediately behind, is not merely *not* convex, but absolutely *concave*. There is a positive hollow.

The sympathetic Shelley presented an extraordinary development of this part of the head. Capt. Medwin relates of him; "So sensitive was he of external impressions; so mag-

netic, that I have seen him, after threading the crowd in the Lung Arno Corsos, throw himself half fainting into a chair, overpowered by the atmosphere of evil passions, as he used to say, in that sensual and unintellectual crowd." This portion of the head is also largely developed in all the great dramatic writers whose portraits I have had an opportunity of examining, and amongst modern poets it is particularly conspicuous in Schiller, Lamb, Campbell, and Tennyson. The writings of Leigh Hunt, and Dickens (who bestows life on a tea-kettle) manifest an excessive activity of the faculty. The organization of the latter is in accordance; that of the former I am unacquainted with. I attribute to it the tendency to invest nature with the feelings of humanity. In the prominence of this tendency in his writings, Shelley surpasses all poets, either ancient or modern, and exhibits examples of it in nearly every page. As a specimen of the style it produces, I subjoin the following extracts:—

"Call not these things inanimate,—the trees,
The grass, the herbs, the flowers. A busy life
Dwells in their seething limbs; and as soft blooms
Unfold themselves unto the alluring Sun,
Fond music, (which we hear not,) mystic odours,
Accompany their soft confessions. Thus,
One springs and fades,—then others come,—whilst sighs
Exhale from each into the listening air,
Telling through all its course, (from life to death,
From verdant spring-time until autumn sere,)
The same eternal story."

Barry Cornwall.

"Here's nought but whispering with us,—like a calm
Before a tempest, when the silent air
Lays her soft ear close to the earth, to hearken
For that she fears is coming to afflict her."

G. Chapman.

"I love thee and am full of happiness,
My bosom bounds beneath thy smile as doth
The sea's unto the moon, his mighty mistress,
Lying and looking up to her, and saying,—
Lovely! lovely! lovely! lady of the heavens!"

Festus.

"I heard a mermaid on a dolphin's back
Uttering such dulcet and harmonious breath,
That the rude sea grew civil at her song."

Midsummer Night's Dream.

"The earth was feverous, and did shake
For horror of the deed."

Macbeth.

“ Walking upon the fatal shore,
 Among the slaughtered bodies of their men
 Which the full-stomached sea had cast upon
 The sands, it was my unhappy chance to light
 Upon a face, whose favour when it lived
 My astonished mind informed me I had seen.
 He lay in his armour as if that had been
 His coffin; and the weeping sea (like one
 Whose milder temper doth lament the death
 Of him whom in his rage he slew) runs up
 The shore, embraces him, kisses his cheek;
 Goes back again and forces up the sands
 To bury him, and every time it parts,
 Sheds tears upon him; till at last (as if
 It could no longer endure to see the man
 Whom it had slain, yet loth to leave him) with
 A kind of unresolved unwilling pace,
 Winding her waves in one another, (like
 A man that folds his arms, or wrings his hands
 For grief,) ebb'd from the body and descends;
 As if it would sink down into the earth,
 And hide itself for shame of such a deed.”

Cyril Tournour.

“ *Beatrice.*—But I remember,
 Two miles on this side of the fort, the road
 Crosses a deep ravine; 'tis rough and narrow,
 And winds with short turns down the precipice;
 And in its depth there is a mighty rock,
 Which has from unimaginable years,
 Sustained itself with *terror* and with *toil*
 Over a gulph, and with the *agony*
 With which it clings, seems slowly coming down.”

Shelley, The Cenci.

“ I am the earth,
 Thy mother; she within whose stony veins,
 To the last fibre of the loftiest tree
 Whose thin leaves tremble in the frozen air,
 Joy ran, as blood within a living frame.

* * * * *

Bright clouds float in heaven,
 Dew-stars gleam on earth,
 Waves assemble on ocean;
 They are gathered and driven
By the storm of delight, by the panic of glee!
They shake with emotion,
They dance in their mirth,
But where are ye?

The pine-boughs are singing
 Old songs with new gladness;
 The billows and fountains
 Fresh music are flinging,
 Like the notes of a spirit from land and from sea:
 The storms mock the mountains
 With the thunder of gladness,
 But where are ye?”

Shelley's Prometheus Unbound.

"CLARIBEL.

"Where Claribel low-lieth
 The breezes pause and die,
 Letting the rose-leaves fall :
 But the solemn oak-tree sigheth,
 Thick-leaved ambrosial,
 With an ancient melody
 Of an inward agony,
 Where Claribel low-lieth.

At eve the beetle boometh
 Athwart the thicket lone ;
 At noon the wild bee hummeth
 About the mossed head-stone :
 At midnight the moon cometh,
 And looketh down alone.
 Her song the lint-white swelleth,
 The clear-voiced mavis dwelleth,
 The fledging throstle lispeth,
 The slumberous wave outwelleth,
 The babbling runnel crispeth,
 The hollow gust replieth,
 Where Claribel low-lieth."

Tennyson.

In this exquisite little gem of art, this choice cabinet painting unsurpassable in depth of tone and purity of tint, the poet represents nature as sympathizing in his grief, and mourning with him over the grave of his love.

Much of the impulsive character of poets may, I think, be attributed to this organ. When large, the individual takes the tone of his feelings from those by whom he is surrounded. Weeps with the sorrowful, and laughs with the joyous, and in this point of view when in *excess* it constitutes a weak point in the character, and is apt to merge the individuality of the individual in that of those with whom he comes in contact. Those in whom it is small, are on the contrary, cold and impassive, possess a hard and inflexible individuality, and pursue their own train of ideas unaffected by the mental condition of their associates. The faculty of Sympathy, though very much below that of Benevolence in dignity, is nevertheless a great stimulator of its activity. Benevolence deals with the abstract idea of suffering, and its influence on character is permanent, durable, and constant. Sympathy, on the contrary, is limited and evanescent in its manifestations, excited through the direct presentation of the expression of suffering, or its vivid pictorial conception by the imagination. If Benevolence be very small, the individual seeks to banish the image as a painful one, as soon as possible, and perhaps seeks forgetfulness in the society of the gay. If Benevolence be large, precisely the contrary takes

place. Sympathy is stimulated to call up the sunken cheek, the haggard eye, the suppressed tear, the attitude of despair; the picture thus presented to the imagination reacts in its turn upon Benevolence, the painful impression on the nerves of the individual is heroically braved, and scenes of suffering are sought out and alleviated by those ministering angels of mercy, the Frys and Howards of society; beings who constitute the greatest glories of the human race, and redeem our faltering faith in the beauty, dignity, and ultimate perfection of man's moral nature.

Benevolence is larger in the English head, Sympathy in the French; and in combination with their large Love of Approbation, which employs "Sympathy" in its service, communicates that amiability of character to the French, that exquisite tact in divining and gratifying the wishes of those with whom they come in contact, for which they are distinguished above all other nations. Persons so organized are always awake to the emotions of others, and sympathize with a thousand little griefs and temporary troubles that pass unnoticed by those who are not so endowed. And though such feelings are often very superficial, even transparently so, yet it is nevertheless a fact that they soothe and gratify the objects on which they are lavished. Much of the impulsiveness of the French, and the manner in which sympathy suddenly invades large masses, who, bound by this tie alone, act together in unison, without concert, must be attributed to the general large size of this organ in the national head.

The organ is larger in the English females than in males, and doubtless in females generally;* and it is this characteristic, combined with their larger love of Approbation and Secretiveness, which gives to women that tact and amiability, that facility in divining the feelings and intentions of those with whom they come in contact, and that intuitive sagacity in appreciating character, in which, at least in England, they so greatly surpass men, and may be said to approximate to the French. The organ was strikingly smaller in the ancient Romans than in the Greeks, and its deficiency in size is very marked in all savage and barbarous nations, and particularly so in the North American Indians.

The softness, flexibility, and kindness it imparts to the manners, often in union with great selfishness of character, have been well appreciated and drawn by many of our writers of fiction; who, equally true to nature, have also not failed to seize and delineate the opposite characteristic, where a

* In combination with Language, it constitutes the fundamental element in the character of the gossip.

comprehensive Benevolence, and deep goodness of heart, lie concealed under an exterior, cold, impassive, and even brusque.

Before the existence of such a primitive faculty as I have attempted to describe, occurred to me, I found myself perpetually at fault in my endeavours to analyze character. Many times have I been greatly surprised to see the vivid impression made by the news of some accident or misfortune on those around me, who were yet, to the best of my knowledge, quite undistinguished by active benevolence. They expressed the most lively pity and concern—seemed to make the case their own, and feel with the sufferer—and were so visibly affected for the moment, as to have the whole current of their thoughts diverted from their previous occupation and engrossed with this new topic. Affectation it was not; the thing was perfectly real; and often I have felt inclined to accuse myself of insensibility and coldness, when I contrasted the small disturbance created in my own mental condition by what so greatly shocked others. By degrees, however, as I discovered that all this fine display of feeling often evaporated without producing any fruit, and assured myself, by repeated observation, that I might, without presumption, rank myself, in point of active benevolence, at least on a par with some of those foremost in sympathy, and at the same time pay myself by no means a high compliment in so doing, I grew better reconciled.

Those in whom the organ is large are desirous for others to take the same view of things as themselves, and are ever ready to attempt to make converts to their own doctrines. *Ceteris paribus*, they are more annoyed at the expression of a difference of opinion than those in whom the organ is small. They do not appear to understand what it is "to be content to differ," but give themselves an amount of trouble, and evince a degree of anxiety to make others share their opinions, quite incomprehensible to those oppositely organized.

It becomes an interesting question to determine, to what extent the faculty of Sympathy assists the talent for Physiognomy. I have never been able to satisfy myself that the latter depended upon the organ of Form alone, though this being always present as a fundamental condition of its existence, the office performed by Sympathy may be merely affective and restricted to acting as a stimulus. Physiognomy would appear to be merely the law of the expression of forms, yet the talent is not so common as might, on this supposition have been expected, from the frequently large development of the organ of Form, and certainly my observations on the

existence of Sympathy large, where the talent for Physiognomy is possessed in a high degree, incline me to the belief of there being a close connection between the two. I was at one time staggered in this opinion by the case of Sir Charles Bell. I knew nothing of his head, but surmised, from his vivisections, that he most probably had the organ of Sympathy small; a circumstance not to be expected in the author of a work on the *Anatomy of Expression*, and weighing heavily (if proved to be the fact) against that connection between the large development of the organ of Sympathy and a talent for Physiognomy, which numerous examples of the association of the two had been leading me to form. Reading, however, one day a review of his works, I alighted on the following passages:—"It is not too strong an expression to use, that he suffered agony of mind previous to undertaking a great operation." "His exquisite pain at the sight of suffering made him averse to all experiments on living animals." Statements certainly sufficient to turn the scale, and throw all the weight to be attached to the example, in favour of the connection of Sympathy with a talent for appreciating Expression.

In no point of view do physicians differ more than in their talent for diagnosis. All may be schooled to a categorical knowledge that certain symptoms are indicative of certain diseases; a mode of diagnosis which may be exercised without seeing the patient. But that fine practical sagacity, by which many can read the whole progress of the case and its probable termination, in the countenance and attitude of the patient, is, so far as my experience extends, an intuitive gift not to be acquired. A sixth sense, by which the condition of the patient is *perceived* rather than *inferred*, and by means of which, without asking a question, a more comprehensive and correct knowledge of the case is gathered at a glance, than can be attained by one deficient in this instinct by the longest cross-examination. In forming a judgment of the probable termination of the case, and the length of time the patient is likely to live, the latter class are equally or still more at a loss than in divining the nature of the affection. Yet there is no doubt but that weeks before the termination of diseases, necessarily fatal, death has set his seal on the countenance, and that the final result is written in unerring characters for all who possess the capacity of deciphering them. In all the more remarkable examples of this power which have come under my notice, a large development of the portion of the head lying between Benevolence and Comparison has been associated with the perceptive faculties at

the root of the nose. Perhaps these considerations offer some explanation of what I believe to be an unquestionable fact, viz., that those medical men who devote themselves "*con amore*" to the operative department of the profession, rarely, if ever, *excel* as physicians.

This faculty is the origin of communicativeness; the tendency to impart our own ideas to others. Where is the man so cold and impassive as to be self-sufficient to his own happiness? Are not all more or less suppliants and cravers after the sympathy of others? Is there not a constant flux and reflux of perceptions, observations, and emotions, the source of perpetual activity and progress, as limitless, unceasing, and mighty in its effects as the tides of the ocean? And how appropriately is such a faculty seated at the summit of the forehead, the junction of intelligence and feeling, at the termination of the intellectual faculties, whose function is the acquisition of knowledge, thus ensuring its transmission, when acquired, to others; and making each successive generation the heir in intellectual wealth of all that have preceded it.

By its means man is knit to his fellow-man by an indissoluble tie—becomes a partaker in his fate—the sharer in his joys and sorrows—the *craver for his sympathy*. Nature, ever in harmony, has made man's duties to be in unison with his interests, and "*love thy neighbour as thyself*," is shown to be the summit of true wisdom as regards the happiness of the individual, the true policy even of selfishness, if it were sufficiently enlightened and far-seeing to discern it. The richest and the proudest cannot isolate themselves from the universal heart of humanity. One life-blood circulates throughout the human race. The pulses of agony from the dungeon pierce through stone walls, vibrate in the palace, and disquiet the head that bears a crown. By a law of nature we are made to a certain extent partakers of one common lot. The haughtiest of eastern despots, who encounters the glance of the meanest of his slaves, cannot avert the passage to his heart of the feeling with which that look was fraught, but is gladdened with its sunshine, chilled with its despair, or poisoned with its hate.

T. S. PRIDEAUX.

Southampton, March 1, 1848.

XII. *Cures of St. Vitus's Dance, Rheumatism, and infantile inflammation of the Throat.* By Mr. REYNOLDSON, Bootle, near Liverpool.

St. Vitus's Dance.

Mr. GARDNER, a respectable tradesman in Scotland Road, engaged me, March, 1845, to attend his son, then about 11 years of age, for St. Vitus's dance. I treated him about a month with passes down the right side, and with my right hand directed to that portion of the left lobe of his cerebellum where I detected the presence of increased heat. His recovery was gradual but complete. His health is thoroughly established.

Rheumatism.

Mrs. Ashbey, living in Peach Street, was several years in the domestic employ of Bishop Magee, of Dublin, our friend Dr. M'Neile's father-in-law. She is much respected for moral worth, though in humble life. She had been a martyr to rheumatism for many years. Had been bled, blistered, and cauterized. For three years carried her left arm in a sling, and had been well supplied with medicines for five years. In spite of all, the pain had left her arm and flown to the heart. She was supposed to be dying in February, 1844. A mutual friend (Mr. Samuel B. Jackson) requested me to visit her. For some minutes I hesitated: her immediate death was anticipated. I had then few friends in Liverpool, and thought a coroner's inquest might be urged by some splenetic medical practitioners to criminate me in the transaction. The converse of this view was more imperative. There is an opportunity presented of saving a valuable life, and if, from cowardice, I let that woman die, how shall I answer for it to the Father of spirits? The result was most triumphant: and this very day, Nov. 22nd, 1847, I have taken away all her ailment—a pain in the arm—with two passes.

Mr. Collins, late of Newark, and now of Everton, Liverpool, was present, and can testify to this last fact.

She never slept ten minutes in all, though twice very early in the case she went into mesmeric sleep.

Inflammation of the Throat in an Infant.

The infant child of Mr. Campbell, Temperance Hotel, Mount Pleasant, was, if I mistake not, at the point of death from inflammation in the throat. On Thursday, the 11th of

November, I called accidentally, and found the infant's complexion *yellow*, and her mother's breasts inflamed. The first appreciable result of my action, was an inclination to take the breast after a change in her complexion had been effected. My next concern was to take the inflammation from the mother's breast, before allowing this child to suck any more hurtful milk. A few passes relieved Mrs. Campbell at the expense of striking pain to her back, which was next cured. The child slept well that night for the first since it had been very ill; for two days with slight manipulations it had much sleep. I will not offer an opinion as to the proportion of mesmeric and ordinary sleep, or how far the terms involve a distinction without a difference; but at some times the repose was so complete, that though the skin was moist and the stomach and bowels regular, parental affection took alarm, and sent for the attendant surgeon, who humbly confessed he could do nothing more. Three times medicine was administered, once in my presence, after I commenced to act, and each time instantly rejected by the child's stomach. The child, after sleeping nearly night and day for four days, awoke very lively, and beautifully convalescent.

XIII. *Cure of intense Head-ache and other distressing symptoms.* By MR. SAUNDERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ZOIST.

SIR,—As there are many persons who believe in the mesmeric phenomena, but who at the same time think the cures effected through that agency are not lasting, I beg to forward the following case of Mrs. Saunders (my wife), whose cure has been of the most permanent description; I will let her tell her own tale, and only add a few remarks by way of explanation.

“I was in ill health for some years, almost constantly under medical care, and very frequently obliged to consult physicians, many of whom (and most of them of very considerable eminence) declaring my absolute restoration to sound health to be very improbable. My malady was termed by them overflow of blood to the head. I suffered the most violent pains in my head almost daily, frequently so agonizing were the pains as to cause me to groan aloud, and compel me to lie a good portion of my time in bed; I could not go into society without the excitement causing my head to ache most violently. I also suffered from extreme weakness; I was quite unable to walk any distance or endure the least bodily

fatigue; I was frequently bled from the arm, leeches profusely, besides my taking all sorts of medicines, and being kept to a very spare diet; change of air was frequently tried, all which means afforded me only a temporary relief; I did not gain any strength, indeed I very soon became as great a sufferer as ever. At length my husband became acquainted with mesmerism, and, finding he could himself mesmerise, he was induced to try its effect in my case. After many trials to induce the required sleep, he was obliged to relinquish his efforts, for unfortunately no effect was produced upon me, and I conceived myself to be wholly unsusceptible. After an interval of some weeks, another trial was made to induce sleep, and strange to relate, a few, very few, passes obliged me to sit down (for I was at the time standing); and ultimately a sound sleep was induced. The result of daily mesmerism for about three months was the entire relief of the pains in my head, a great addition to my strength, and the producing a cheerfulness of spirits, such as I had not felt for several past years. In the space of six months, I became such a different being, that my friends scarcely recognized me as the same person, who had so long been a sufferer; and am now in perfect health and spirits, and much stronger than I ever felt in my life. It is now between three and four years since I gave up medicine and resorted to mesmerism.

“MATILDA SAUNDERS.”

I will now, sir, proceed to give you a few of the phenomena which occurred during and after the restoration of my wife to perfect health. As she has already told you, we consulted many physicians and surgeons of Bath, but without deriving any benefit from their prescriptions. One physician treated her for a flow of blood to the head, and after changing the medicine several times during five or six months, declared he could not tell whether she was better or worse, and hoped in a little time to find out what really was her disease. Finding this physician was working in the dark as to her complaint, and feeling satisfied that when a medicine does not produce a beneficial effect, it frequently does considerable harm, I took her to another leading medical man, a surgeon; he treated her as labouring under general debility, but his medicines were also useless. Another surgeon had her bled frequently, which gave her a little relief for a few hours, but she became invariably worse. Another physician said, after attending her for some months, that the disease had made such inroads upon the constitution, she having been labouring under it for eight or ten years, that he did not think she ever

would be cured of it, and that she had better keep herself quiet, take plenty of aperients, be frequently bled, bathe her head with cold water, and never read or talk of anything that was at all likely to excite her.

I thought it therefore my duty to try the effects of mesmerism upon her, and after many attempts, as she has already told you, I caused sleep to come on, and was able to make her limbs perfectly rigid. I made passes over her head by joining the fingers of my two hands at the top of her head, and drawing them down each side to the shoulders. Her face was very red, and I made passes in front of the face from the organ of Veneration down to the chest, and could see distinctly the redness descend. First it came down to the eyes; I then with about eight or ten passes brought it down within half an inch of her chin. As the colour descended, she said the pain left her head, and she could feel it (the pain) just where the red colour appeared to stop; so that at first the pain was on the top of the head, it then left that part, and fixed itself in a line with the eyes, indeed the eyes became very much inflamed; it then went to the chin, and so on down the body till it entirely left her, and I am happy to say that she became, comparatively speaking, quite a new being. Her spirits are excellent; she can walk almost any distance, and never has a pain in her head or any malady which is not taken away in a few minutes by local mesmerism. The only medicine that she has taken since I applied mesmerism, which is now between three and four years, is an occasional antibilious pill. After I had effected her cure, I attempted to excite her phrenological organs, and they responded very quickly. On one occasion, when I had some friends at my house, a gentleman present sent her into the sleep in about half a minute; he tickled the sensitive part of the nose and touched the eyelashes without producing the least symptom of feeling. Several lozenges were tasted behind her back, and she told correctly the taste of each; snuff was also taken behind her back, and she sneezed several times; her speech was instantly checked by touching with the finger the back part of the occipital protuberance, and as instantly resumed when the finger was removed. Phreno-mesmerism without contact was very successful and interesting; the organs of Veneration, Benevolence, Destructiveness, &c., all gave strong manifestations, though the party pointing the finger held it fully two inches from the organ, and also stood behind her in order that she might not know to what organ he was directing his finger. On another occasion, she was sent into the sleep by a gentleman of high scientific attainments, in about a quarter

of a minute. The phrenological organs of a third party were touched, and showed their manifestations very clearly in Mrs. Saunders. She can play a game of cribbage with great ease in the sleep, even with her eyes bandaged, and frequently reads addresses, and letters, cards, &c; sometimes when they are placed on the top of her head, and at others when they are under her foot. If she meets with an accident, such as a burn, or fall, she invariably gets me to locally mesmerise her. Once she fell down on her left arm, and upon getting up, she could scarcely move the arm; it began to swell, looked red, and the pain she said was very acute. I made some passes down the arm, for about five minutes, but though I could ordinarily catalepsy the arm in one pass, and even by the look alone, still on this occasion, it took me full ten minutes to produce rigidity; but when once rigidity was produced, the arm returned to its original colour, the pain entirely left it, and after I reduced it to its original state, she said she could scarcely believe that there had ever been anything at all the matter with it; and I almost invariably find that where a limb is strained, and I can produce rigidity, the cure is certain. As she was feeling great pain one day from an inflammation of the eye, I made passes down the face, and thought I could bring the disease out at the shoulder; on waking her up, for she had gone into the sleep, her eye was quite cured, but she felt a severe pain in her shoulder. I then made some passes from the shoulder to the fingers, and the pain immediately vanished.

She is very correct in describing the diseases of parties who come to me to be mesmerised. Only a week or two back, a young gentleman called on me to ask me if I thought mesmerism would be of any use to him. He said he had not seen anything of mesmerism, and although he believed in the sleep, yet he could not believe anything beyond that state. I put Mrs. Saunders into the sleep: she took his hand, and so minutely described his complaint, and even the shooting pains which he then felt in his head, that he looked aghast, and said the truth of her statement was so exact that he felt quite frightened. He then submitted to the manipulations for a short time, but being very nervous when he felt the mesmeric effects commencing, he got up, and I have not seen him since.

Having lately changed our residence from Bath to Bristol, I have not had time to devote so much attention as I could have wished to many parties who are desirous of receiving benefit from mesmerism; but previous to my coming to Bristol, I find on looking over my book, that out of fifty

patients, I have thoroughly cured twenty-five, and as I only operate "*en amateur*," I am not able to give my patients that time and regularity which would be expected from a professional man.

S. D. SAUNDERS.

Back Hall, Bristol,
March 9, 1848.

This case should be read side by side with that of Mr. Snewing, in No. XIX., p. 284.—*Zoist*.

XIV. *Benefit of Self-Mesmerism in a case of Impediment of Speech.* By Mr. SAUNDERS, Bristol.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ZOIST.

SIR,—In spite of the opposition of the medical profession in Bristol, mesmerism is making gigantic strides in this city; indeed a vast number of those medical Practitioners who formerly spoke of mesmerism as humbug and delusion, are either become converts to the science, or else admit that they are not in a situation to give an opinion upon the subject, from not having examined it. We have a Mesmeric Investigation Society, which meets once a fortnight, and amongst its most attentive members are some gentlemen of high standing in society and great scientific attainments. Independently of this Society, it is in contemplation to establish a Mesmeric Infirmary, and from the tone of the public, I have every reason to believe that it will meet with very general support. For, though we have many medical men here who are perfect believers in mesmerism, still they are afraid of losing caste by practising it; so that the few benevolent amateurs who mesmerise are unable to devote a sufficient time to alleviate the sufferings of one third of the individuals who apply to them for relief. Indeed some parties, fearing to trespass too much upon the time of their mesmerisers, have operated upon themselves, and with considerable success.

A person, by the name of Taylor, living in this city, applied to me on account of an impediment in his speech, which at times caused him great inconvenience. I succeeded in closing his eyes, but he still retained consciousness. By drawing my hand down before his throat, I caused him to throw his head backwards; and he said he felt his throat dragged forwards towards my hand: the moment I placed my fingers in contact with his head, he instantly returned to his natural state, and opened his eyes. By making passes

down the back of his head, a similar effect was produced. After mesmerising him a few times, I could close his eyes, and draw his head and neck into almost any position by the will alone, and even when in an adjoining room, with a thick wall between us. After a few weeks, the thought struck him that he might be able to mesmerise himself. He accordingly tried, and, after making a few passes down his face, his eyes closed, and his head and neck became twisted and strained to such a degree that he was compelled to desist, and make the reverse passes over his face, in order to take away the severe pain caused by the straining of the parts of the throat. By making a few passes with his right hand over his left arm, the latter became perfectly rigid, and could not be restored to its natural state until he made reverse passes over it. He continues to mesmerise himself every morning, and considers his *speech greatly improved, as is also his general health.*

In my own house mesmerism is a never-failing remedy. If a finger is burnt, a few passes are made and the pain vanishes. Let what will happen to either Mrs. Saunders or the children, they invariably become speedily cured by a few of my mesmeric passes. We have lately had an aunt staying with us; she has been subject to great heat and pain in the back part of her head: but a little mesmerism soon puts her head to rights. She was unlucky enough, a few days back, to fall down and sprain her hand, whilst on a visit to a friend; but, upon her return to our house, I mesmerised her hand, and it speedily became perfectly well. Not long ago, Mrs. Saunders (who has been thoroughly cured of a disease of the nerves of the head, after having been attended by the heads of the medical profession of Bath unsuccessfully,) fell down and strained her elbow very severely. The arm began to swell down to the wrist, and gave great pain. I made some passes over it, and she complained of the burning which the passes caused. I endeavoured to cause the arm to become rigid, (an effect which I was in the habit of producing by one pass alone,) but could not do so till after manipulating nine or ten minutes: but, as soon as it did become rigid, the pain immediately left her elbow. I then mesmerised the arm, and neither swelling nor pain were either seen or felt afterwards. Indeed I invariably find that in the case of strains, rigidity is rather difficult to produce; but, when once obtained, the cure is effected.

Mesmerism has lately been greatly assisted by some very excellent lectures which have been delivered by Dr. Storer, a resident physician of Bristol, at the Literary Institution in Park Street. At the last lecture, the theatre of the Insti-

tution was crowded by an audience of *believers*,—the same theatre in which only three years ago a round robin against mesmerism was signed by the Bristol medical practitioners. A friend, who has just ordered his bookseller to erase his name as a subscriber to the *Lancet*, has read to me a few lines from that work upon the notice of the *Bristol Mercury* relating to Dr. Storer's lectures; but the opinions expressed are evidently those of a man made up of love of notoriety, destructiveness, and acquisitiveness, and writhing day and night, at home and abroad, under the bitterest disappointment at the steady manner in which mesmerism has advanced in this and other countries. For the time he deemed it a vile imposition, and declared he had destroyed it for ever, nine years ago; and now it is fairly established as one of the grandest and most sensible truths of nature.

I remain, Sir, yours thankfully,

Back Hall, Baldwin Street,
Bristol.

S. D. SAUNDERS.

XV. *A case of the relinquishment of Opium-taking, and one of the restoration of lost Weight, with Mesmerism.* By Mr. ADAMS, Surgeon, Lymington. In a letter to Mr. Kiste.

Lymington,

January 28th, 1848.

My dear Mr. Kiste,—I fear you will think me a poor coadjutor in extending the knowledge and practice of mesmerism; as I have not reported a single case to the public since I had the pleasure of seeing you more than two years ago, when we had so much discussion on this most interesting and important subject.

The fact is that I have been prevented from attempting much in mesmerism, by the engrossing occupations of general practice; and then I suffer so much from exhaustion in the process, that I cannot persevere with it long together. However, I am happy to say, that the prejudices and obstacles to the progress of mesmerism in this neighbourhood are of late much diminished, and I hope the time is at length approaching when the relatives and friends of the afflicted will be disposed to take upon themselves the office of mesmeriser under the direction of their medical adviser; which seems the only method by which much progress can be made.

I shall select two cases out of some others, which have lately come under my notice, of the beneficial effects of

mesmerism, for your perusal, and if you think them of sufficient interest for publication, I will thank you to report them in *The Zoist*. Although there may be no novelty in them, yet, perhaps it may be necessary and useful to continue to publish cases of this kind, from as many independent sources as possible, till by their repetition, the public mind shall be more generally awakened to the importance of the subject.

CASE 1. *A habit of Opium-taking, removed through Mesmerism.*

In the month of November last, a lady, 45 years of age, from a neighbouring town, whose name I am not at liberty to give, applied to me for medical advice under circumstances, which, at my request, she has described in writing. And her statement is as follows.

"It is seven years ago last May, that my illness first commenced, from a fright I received at that time, being two months advanced in pregnancy. I suffered severely from repeated hæmorrhages during the following four months, and at the end of that time gave birth to a dead child, having at my confinement suffered very much from violence of pain and nervous irritation; being constantly obliged to resort to composing medicine to allay the almost maddening pains I endured. After a few months, I was again pregnant, and at the end of the second month, was attacked with flooding, which ended in miscarriage. Three times in quick succession was I the subject of this occurrence; and once I gave birth to a living child, who died in a few months. On all these occasions the symptoms were the same, namely, violent pains and nervous irritation, which could only be subdued by laudanum. The habit of taking laudanum I have found it ever since impossible to break through; any attempt to do so being followed by insupportable local irritation and restlessness."

I told my patient there was no hope for her restoration to health unless the laudanum was left off. The quantity taken amounted to about three teaspoonfuls in twenty-four hours. To leave it off was considered by her an impossibility. I told her I thought it might be done under a course of mesmerism, and that if she would consent to it, I expressed my willingness to give her six consecutive sittings in the presence of her son, if he would promise to go on with it for some weeks. This was assented to. Without tediously detailing the results of each sitting, I have the satisfaction of stating that the patient was readily influenced by the mesmeric passes; that a soothing,

tranquil effect entirely new to her was produced at the very first sitting, which gradually increased, and was frequently succeeded by sleep of half an hour's duration; nights of good rest soon followed. Half the laudanum was left off in a week, and the whole of it at the end of five weeks from the commencement of the mesmerism; without any return of the distressing feelings for which it was taken.

CASE 2. Restoration of lost Weight with Mesmerism.

In September last, a young gentleman about 13 years of age, the son of a friend of mine, came from a distance to stay with me a few weeks for the benefit of sea air. He was thin and weak, having recently suffered from chronic abscess, which was then nearly cured. His appetite and spirits were good, and there being no symptoms of disease of any kind, I trusted to a generous diet and change of air for the complete restoration of his health without giving any medicine. I weighed him a day or two after his arrival, and on doing so again a fortnight after, was disappointed at finding he had gained nothing in weight. Observing at this time some slight jerking muscular movements about him of a St. Vitus's dance character, I began mesmerising him every morning for half an hour. In other respects no change was made; his diet and habits of exercise continued the same, and no medicine was given. *At the end of another fortnight he had gained six pounds in weight.*

I now left off the mesmerism, being very much engaged otherwise, and not very well; and a fortnight afterwards ascertained that he had lost two pounds. I then resumed the mesmerism, but not very efficiently I fear, not being quite well, and meeting with frequent interruptions to the process. However, at the end of the next fortnight, he had regained one pound. Soon after this, my young friend left me to join his relations. I have lately had the pleasure of hearing that he is perfectly well.

By way of comment on the first of these cases, the question naturally suggests itself, by what *other* means any medical man, who repudiates mesmerism, can expect to cure so destructive a habit of seven years' standing, and in so short a time? Any one professing the healing art who refuses, after reading this statement, to employ mesmerism in a similar case, must either disbelieve my statement, or stand convicted of preferring the indulgence of his prejudices to saving the lives and removing the sufferings of his patients. As to my veracity, it would be well for any sceptic to consider that my

testimony in favour of the beneficial agency of mesmerism is that of one only amongst a hundred others,—all honourable members of an honourable profession. But the friends of so new and startling a discovery as mesmerism, have the same difficulties to contend with in pressing it on mankind as have always attended every important innovation in the scientific and moral world. Time, however, is the friend of all truth; and its advocates best promote its advancement by a calm, dignified, and persevering assertion of its presence and properties. Philosophers should not return railing for railing; it damages their cause, as well as disturbs their composure. The right way is to keep the lamp of truth steadily burning; to expose error and leave it to rot. The cloak of ignorance and prejudice will be much sooner stripped off by the sunbeams than by the blast.

I remain, my dear Sir, yours truly,
N. ADAMS.

To A. Kiste, Esq.

XVI. *Facts in Clairvoyance.* By Dr. ASHBURNER.

"Drs. Winslow, Browning, Hodgkin, and other medical gentlemen, were then examined as to the present state of mind of the alleged lunatics, and agreed that they were insane, and incapable of managing their affairs. On being cross-examined by Mr. Miller, several admitted that there was no unsoundness of mind except as to the above-mentioned delusions. Dr. Hodgkin said, '*A person who believed that any one under the influence of mesmerism could read a book in the next room, would be labouring under a delusion, although he might be able to take care of himself and property.*'"—*Extract from a Newspaper.*

"*Mr. Macaulay.* You mentioned as a remarkable instance that a person of great rank in the state was a patron of the mesmeric hospital.—*Dr. Seymour.* Yes. I have seen a proposal going round with his name at the end of it.

"*Mr. M.* Do you conceive that in patronizing the mesmeric hospital, he shewed a disregard to the College of Physicians?—*Dr. S.* I think he shewed a great disregard to our acquirements, to common sense, and to everything else!

"*Mr. M.* Is not the principal of the mesmeric hospital a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians?—*Dr. S.* That I cannot help. He became a fellow *before he took up his apostolic mission.*

"*Mr. M.* Has he been allowed by the college to make a public appearance upon an occasion of great interest?—*Dr. S.* He was not passed over: that was all. I think it was a bad measure, but I cannot help it." (*Report from the Select Committee on Medical Registration; together with the Minutes of Evidence*, pp. 1300—1303.)

"There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy."—*Shakespeare.*

PHYSICIANS who know little of metaphysics,—almost nothing of the physical facts relating to the philosophy of mind; who are grossly ignorant of the splendid truths developed by the brilliant discoveries of Gall,—many of them, perhaps, unable to appreciate the knowledge of these from the habits of illogical reflection in which they indulge, or may be from a deficiency in the organization of their brains, continue to chatter before courts of justice, and before committees of the legislature, on subjects which they do not understand, and

* Dr. Elliotson's delivery of the Harveian Oration.

which should be studied and comprehended, in some elementary fashion at least, before they are ventured upon in public. Dr. Hodgkin cannot be ignorant of the existence of the quarterly publication issuing from No. 219, Regent Street, entitled *The Zoist*. As a physician, he ought not to be ignorant that many things important to the best interests of humanity are to be found in that work. No physician should practice his profession who is ignorant of the facts contained in Petetin's book on *Animal Electricity*. The different works of Mesmer, De Puysegur, Tardy de Montravel, Foissac, Deleuze, Mialle, Townshend, Colquhoun, Reichenbach, not to speak of the Harveian Oration of Elliotson, should have had some attentive consideration, before a man ventures to commit himself solemnly in a court of justice, or before an assembly of members of the House of Commons on the subjects on which these persons have recorded most important truths. To say, as some physicians have said, that they will not go to school again, is to acknowledge that having been negligent in learning, having omitted to acquire knowledge, they yet claim to practice on a par with those who have the knowledge. Being ignorant themselves, they will brand those as quacks who know more than they do. What is a quack, in the common acceptation of the term, but a doctor ignorant of that which he professes to practice? And men will pretend to talk of their acquaintance with diseases of the mind, while yet they know nothing of *mesmerism*!

Before an opinion is hazarded in a solemn court of justice concerning the views or the belief, on any of the physical phenomena of nature, entertained by contemporary physicians, a man should have made himself master, at least, of the description of evidence they can adduce in favour of facts apparently improbable to narrow intellects. The proposition is quite correct that the truth, having been established by consecutive series of facts to the satisfaction of severely enquiring minds, should be regarded with some respect by all advanced and philosophical thinkers. It is quite impossible, without some great deficiency of intellect, that any man or set of men having, with due philosophic humility, examined the facts that have been received as truths by persons with intellectual cerebral organs of more than average size and activity, can treat them with contempt or even with want of ordinary attention. When we hear of men exposing themselves before courts of justice, or before committees of the House of Commons, by attempting to depreciate the intellects of those who study *mesmerism*, and

who believe in the existence of the occult phenomena known now to thousands of persons in all quarters of the globe, may we not pity them for the absence of that self-control which allows of a silly exhibition of ignorance, conceit, and arrogance. Poor Dr. Seymour's large organs of Self-esteem and Love of Approbation overcame his wisdom, albeit not overabundant, if the size of his forehead be examined for intellectual power, when he appeared as a champion for the vast acquirements of those who despise that knowledge which they refuse to study; his answer on the "disregard that a person of great rank in the state (simply by advocating mesmerism) shewed to the acquirements of the College of Physicians, to common sense, and to *everything else!*" evinces the confusion of intellect,—the impertinent and inordinate vanity that characterizes low mental power with large posterior parietal development. Dr. Hodgkin's reputation will not be increased, among reflecting men, by his classing the phenomena of clairvoyance among delusions. May be, he, like some other medical practitioners, may assume that it is competent for him to say what is and what is not in the course of nature,—that the Almighty has it not in his power to shew us facts which may militate against the preconceived, the prejudged convictions of what is called an *accomplished* physician, proud of his own acquirements. Either the phenomena of clairvoyance are in the course of nature,—happen and fall out into the light of this world by God's permission and will, for they are truths,—or the physicians who declare them to be against the course of nature, deny to him the power of bringing to pass things which are daily existent, and are proved to be truths by those who humbly and diligently seek for them. The god of these prejudging physicians is but an *idol!* and they are idol-worshippers. They would have God's will bend to their limited determinations, and are angry at the truth of clairvoyance, as those sailors were angry with their deity, an idol whom they whipped and threw overboard because their prayers to him did not succeed in securing propitious weather. Their carpenter could make them a new god,—but Dr. Hodgkin's carpenter cannot construct for him a deity who shall get rid of the Almighty's will, that the truths of clairvoyance are as firmly established—are as fully correct—as the truths relating to the diurnal changes which it has pleased that Being to ordain.

And whose is the right to declare his brother a lunatic for believing in such truths? Is it Dr. Hodgkin's?

If religion or philosophy can teach him *humility*, he would do well to study *The Zoist!* He would do well to learn what

Gall has written ! He would do well to enquire practically about mesmerism, which would teach him how valuable was that knowledge which Gall obtained from the book of nature, and which that gifted man threw out for the benefit of the world, before he could be allowed to know through mesmerism of the almost mathematical demonstration that all he had said on the functions of the brain and nerves was absolute truth ! Above all, Dr. Hodgkin would do well to find out that by the aid of mesmerism he may be enabled to understand far more than he knows relating to the subject of delusions, and by God's blessing to a physician,—*the truly humble mind of the real philosopher*,—to cure mental diseases.

Good heaven ! that men professing to practice among their fellow-beings afflicted with lunacy should be arrogantly ignorant of mesmerism ! No man can do justice to his fellow-man, as a medical practitioner, while he remains ignorant of mesmeric science ! If he have common powers of reflection, the facts in *The Zoist* will teach him that new things are appearing which must change the whole practice of physic ; that the polarities of crystals lead to reflections on the principles involved in the *modus operandi* of all the substances employed in medical art ; that the analogies between mesmerism and electricity are so close as to demonstrate the gross ignorance and absolute folly of deriding the facts which belong to these twin-sister sciences. Sneers and boastings of acquirements are not the class of arguments to make converts in these days, and the votaries of truth fear not the fool's weapon of ridicule. For myself, notwithstanding the position assigned to me by Dr. Hodgkin in the category of the "deluded," I will shew that I am a firm believer in clairvoyance by a statement of facts, which, I doubt not, will be interesting to the readers of *The Zoist*.

On Saturday, 12th February, 1848, Major Buckley, well known as an ardent and powerful mesmeriser, and among his brother officers as possessing a high character for truthfulness and integrity, brought to my house, at half past eight o'clock in the evening, two young women who had arrived at Paddington, about three hours before, from Cheltenham. The one, A. B., aged 26 years, is of a slight figure, above the middle height, of a nervo-lymphatic temperament, with dark hair and grey eyes. It appeared that she had been mesmerised occasionally since the 27th December, 1846. She works as a dress maker, is a person of excellent character, was formerly said to be consumptive and delicate, but has latterly enjoyed good health, notwithstanding very

assiduous attention to her occupations, which sometimes oblige her to sit up at her needle till very late in the dark hours of night.

The other, E. L., is 21 years of age. She is slightly *embonpoint*, of middle stature, lymphatic temperament, with dark hair, hazel eyes, of most interesting expression. She has been mesmerised occasionally for three years. She is a dress maker, and the intimate friend and companion of A. B. In her feelings she is more sensitive than her friend. Both have amiable cerebral developments. A. B. has better Constructiveness, Size, Individuality, Music, Time, and Mirth; but as a whole, the head of E. L. indicates Causality, Comparison, Colour, and other organs of taste and judgment, better than that of her friend. Her head is larger. Both are well formed for affection and the social feelings of our nature. Both have a delicacy of nervous fibre that produces a highly sensitive condition of mind. Each is susceptible,—both are impressionable. The phenomena exhibited by these young women were to me most extraordinary. I had corresponded with Major Buckley on their cases long before I saw them, and had proposed that a committee should be appointed to examine into the facts so often alleged to have been completed by these young women. The objection to such a committee exists in the truths, elicited by much experience, concerning the utter failure of the phenomena in the presence of severely doubting minds. It would seem as if the fluid emitted by the brains of persons, who are severely—and to clairvoyantes—disagreeably sceptical, was sufficient to suffocate and to destroy the developing events. It was consequently agreed that on the evening of the arrival in town of these young women, nobody should be present besides themselves, at first, but Major Buckley and myself. We assembled in my little library. I had provided myself with a dozen walnut-shells, bought at Grange's, in Piccadilly, containing carraway comfits, and as I thought a motto each, and two ounces of hazle nut-shells, containing comfits and printed mottos. These were in two packets of an ounce each, and had been purchased by me about two hours before, at Lawrence's, in Oxford Street, at the corner of Marylebone Lane. One of the young women was seated at either side of the fire place, Major Buckley placed himself at the apex of a triangle, of which they formed the basal angles. He made a few slow passes from his forehead to the pit of his stomach, on his own person. The girls said, after he had made eight or ten of these passes, "that they were sufficient." They saw a blue light upon him; and A. B., having taken up one of the

nut-shells provided by me, placed it upon the chimney piece above her head. E. L. then did the same thing with one of the nut-shells allotted to her. I was fully aware of the objections of sceptics, that a possibility existed of changing these shells by sleight of hand; I watched the proceedings anxiously and accurately, to avoid the possibility of being deceived. The movements of these young women were slow and deliberate, not like the hocus pocus quick jerk of the conjurer. A. B. first announced her readiness to read the motto in her nut-shell. She said that the words were,

“The little sweetmeat here revealed,
Lays, as good deeds should lay, concealed.”

I wrote down to her dictation, then I cracked the shell, emptied out the comfits, and found among them a little strip of paper, several times folded, on which were printed the very words she had spoken. Remember, reader, she was not asleep; both the girls were wide awake, and joined in the conversation with Major Buckley and myself, in the intervals of the phenomena which they were exhibiting.

Then E. L. read the motto in her hazle nut-shell. It ran thus,

“An honest man may take a knave’s advice,
But idiots only will be cheated twice.”

After I had written this down, and before I opened the shell by the aid of the nut-crackers, she said, “At the top above the first line is part of another motto, it runs thus,

“Who smiles to see me in despair.

The word despair is cut close.” When the nut-shell was opened, and the motto unfolded, the description given by E. L. was found to be quite correct.

A. B. then took another shell, and in a very short time read these words, which I wrote down,

“She’s little in size
Has bright speaking eyes,
And if you prove true,
Will be happy with you.”

The shell was broken open, and the words printed on the little slip of folded paper found among the sweetmeats within, were word for word with those written down by me.

E. L. took her turn at reading, the words she read out were,

“In every beholder a rival I view,
I ne’er can be equalled in loving of you.”

Having written down these words, the shell was opened and it was found that E. L. had read the motto quite correctly.

The servant announced that Mr. Arnott wished to see me. He had come on professional business, and with no view of witnessing these phenomena. I asked Major Buckley's permission to introduce him. He came in and sat down. A. B. proposed that he should take up a nut-shell from the table, and she offered to read the motto while he held it in his hand. He seemed hardly to be aware of what wonder he was to witness. He took up a nut, held it in his closed hand, and A. B. read thus,

"The pangs of absence, how severe,
Have they ne'er waked thy bitter tear?"

Mr. Arnott took the nut-crackers, broke his nut-shell, and found that A. B. had read quite correctly. His laugh and look of surprise told enough of the conviction of his mind. The event had become a fact. How to account for it was another matter. He could not deny that he had witnessed the fact.

Major Buckley adjourned our meeting to Tuesday, 15th of February.

This time he brought the young women by day-light. They arrived at my house about a quarter past one. I proposed that, as at our last meeting the mottos had been read in hazle nut-shells, the walnut-shells should now be offered. A. B. took one, and after a while said there was no printed paper within, though there were some carraway comfits and other sugar plums. The nut-shell was cracked, and she was found to be quite correct.

She took up another walnut and read,

"If you were man, as man you are in shew,
You would not use a gentle lady so."

Above the top line, she added, near the commencement, there were the two letters, My, clipped, part of another motto that had been cut by the scissors in separating the mottos for use. The shell was broken, and it was found that she was quite right in every particular.

E. L. read her first walnut-shell motto thus,

"Beneath your bounteous smile to live,
Is joy that splendour ne'er can give."

The shell was opened, she was quite correct.

In the next shell she said the slip of paper contained a conundrum. It began with a capital Q. for question, thus,

"Q. Why is a young swan like a seal?
A. Because it is a cygnet."

She added that there was another word signet spelled differently, and placed between brackets, thus, (Signet.) In all

this, upon opening the walnut-shell, she was found to be quite correct.

A. B. then read her third motto in the walnut-shells. It was exactly the same as the last, read by E. L., and quite as accurately described.

A. B. then read from the fourth of her walnut-shells, and here she made a mistake, attended by some remarkable circumstances. I wrote down her words, thus,

“T’is love like the sun that gives light to the year,
The sweetest of blessings that life can endear.”

She added, underneath the printing of this motto is the top part of a capital T, and of two small t’s. At the commencing side there appears to be half of an N and a small e, belonging to another motto. All this was quite true that she added, but she had mistaken the motto, which ran thus,

“My love’s too great, you may perceive,
And clearly see I don’t deceive.”

That she should be able to perceive the letters accidentally clipped by the hasty scissors from another motto, and yet not be able as usual to read the whole of what was on the printed slip of paper, is quite unaccountable.

Another walnut-shell was given to E. L., and she said there was a large sweetmeat in it, but no motto, which on opening was found to be quite true.

The next taken up by E. L. contained a conundrum. She said it began with letter Q., thus,

“Q. Why is a person who steals a noted newspaper like Cain?”

She was rather joyous, laughed, and said, “Do you give it up?” and then went on,

“A. Because he takes a *Bell’s Life*.”

Abel’s life, she added, was in brackets, (Abel’s life.) I opened the walnut-shell, and found that she was quite correct.

E. L. took up another walnut-shell, and said, “There is no motto in this,” which when it was opened, was found to be quite true.

A. B. had been a little damped in spirits by her mistake, but was encouraged to take another walnut-shell; the conundrum in which she read perfectly correctly,

“Q. Why was Titian’s fat daughter, Mary, like William Cobbett?
A. Because she was a great Polly Titian.”

Quickly A. B. read the next conundrum, inside of a walnut, thus,

“Q. Why is tea, bought at the corner of Devereux Court
in the Strand, like a rope?”

“A. Because it comes from Twining’s.”

The walnut-shell on being opened, allowed us to unfold and read the slip of paper, and it was found that A. B. was quite correct.

E. L. next read the slip of paper in the walnut-shell, which fell to her lot.

“ Q. When is it dangerous to walk by the side of a river ?

A. When the bull-rush is out.”

“ Between brackets,” she added, “ are the words (bull rushes out).” The accuracy of her clairvoyance was proved by the opening of the nut-shell.

At two o’clock Mr. Ashhurst Majendie was announced. All the walnuts were exhausted, but I found the remainder of my hazle nuts in a drawer, where I had secured them. With Major Buckley’s permission, Mr. Majendie assented to the proposal of A. B., that he should hold a hazle nut in his hand. She noticed that on the top of the folded paper slip there were three capital letters, C. A. L., part of the C. cut off, the motto running thus,

“ Come kiss and forgive,
In love let us live.”

Mr. Majendie cracked the nut, and found that all she had said was quite true.

Then A. B. proposed to read a motto while the nut was held in my hand. She said,

“ In spite of your indifference,
I still have hopes of your compliance.”

She proved to be quite right.

E. L. took up the cue, and read from a nut on the chimney piece,

“ Trifling presents preserve friendship.”

On opening the hazle nut it was found that she was quite right.

She next read a motto in another nut,

“ Love is the greatest blessing given
To pilgrim man by pitying heaven.”

She first read *under* heaven, and then corrected herself, the unfolding proved that the words were, “ by pitying heaven.”

E. L. had not read a motto from a nut held in a person’s hand ; Mr. Majendie wished her to try and read one in his hand, and he took one from the table. She read.

“ How few like you possess a mind,
Where all the virtues are combined.”

Mr. Majendie on opening the nut-shell, found that she was quite correct.

Major Buckley, having an appointment, was obliged to break up our *séance*.

On Wednesday, 16th February, at about one o'clock, my friends, Mr. and Mrs. Gutch, were with me, when Major Buckley arrived with his clairvoyantes. The sight of strangers produced a little nervousness, and Mr. Gutch went for a while into another room. A. B. read her first motto,—

“ Make much of precious time while in your power,
Care full well and husband every hour.”

The shell being opened, it was found that her reading had been quite correct.

Finding that the girls were reassured, I asked permission to bring back Mr. Gutch. When he came in E. L. read a motto in a hazle nut-shell,—

“ Banish care, and welcome glee,
Accept this motto, love, from me.”

A. B. then read,—

“ Believe me, in good as well as ill,
Woman is a contradiction still.”

She said that on the slip of paper containing these lines there were a capital T. and some parts of letters not legible. Mr. Gutch opened the shell and found that she had given a perfectly correct account of the matter.

The next motto in a hazle nut-shell was read correctly by E. L., as Mr. Gutch, who opened the shell, has testified.

“ Breath for life I less require,
Than you, the object of my heart's desire.”

The fifth was read by E. L.,—

“ My heart ordains this,
All women to kiss.”

Mr. Gutch opened the shell, and found that the lines had been read correctly.

The sixth was read by E. L.,—

“ Beauty and modesty combine,
To make my heart entirely thine.”

Found by Mr. Gutch to have been read accurately.

The seventh was read by A. B.

“ If I feared not to offend,
A thousand vows of love I'd send.”

Mr. Gutch opened this shell and found that what I had written down corresponded accurately with the words read by A. B.

On Thursday, 24th February, Lord Adare came by appointment at half-past three to witness the clairvoyance of these young women. Major Buckley having made the passes

down his own face, the girls said they saw a blue light on his forehead and cheeks. They were nervous at the presence of Lord Adare, and it was a long time before either of them felt able to read. A. B. trembled and could not read at all. E. L. at last said she could see the last line of the motto in her nut, and she read thus,—

“He seeks for thorns and finds his share.”

I had written a for his, and when I read out before the nut was cracked, she corrected me. Lord Adare opened the shell and read,—

“Man blindly follows grief and care;
He seeks for thorns and finds his share.”

The last line was just as E. L. had seen it before the shell was opened.

In conversing with Dr. Elliotson on the subject of these experiments, he suggested to me that notwithstanding the conviction I had of the nut-shells being identical with those I had bought myself, there might be a possibility of some jugglery. It was *possible* that each nut might be changed for one the motto of which was well known. It was not right to be content with probabilities.

Lord Adare presented a nut, the motto of which had been previously taken out and marked. E. L. said there was something in that nut-shell which gave her a severe head-ache. She was sure it was marked, and the very suspicion of her being guilty of fraud made her feel very ill. She began to read,—

“Thy charms, my love, can make,”

but could not proceed. She went away, and both girls passed a restless night, so keenly hurt were they from having failed, and from having been thought capable of trick and deceit. The next day, they came again, and Lord Adare, Major Buckley, and I were the only persons present. The first part of the motto read yesterday proved to be correct. I had procured some nuts at M. Cœuret's in Drury Lane, and had taken out the mottos, cut them carefully with scissors so that I should know them again, and had moreover written my initials on each slip of paper before I refolded and replaced it in the nut-shell. I ought to observe that I put back the sugar-plums and closed the shells so carefully with chocolate, I am certain no person could detect, the day after, that they had been opened. The number I treated in this manner prevented my remembering the lines of the mottos, so that the phenomena could not be dependant on thought-reading. E. L. laboured under a head-ache, and said she was too con-

fused, she feared, to read accurately. At last she said, "I see J. A. at one end of the motto written in ink—that's a marked nut I know ;" then she proceeded,—

"Love not governed by sense or reason,
Is like a chance bird out of season."

Lord Adare broke the shell, and on examining the paper found the letters J. A. I recognized my marks. The words printed were,—

"Love not guided still by reason,
Is the chance bird of a season."

So that the clairvoyante had been confused in her reading.

A. B. then tried to read a marked nut,—

"Fair maiden, hear my loving vow."

She remarked that the sugar-plums were all white, instead of being of several colours. She was quite correct. The illness of the clairvoyantes prevented our going on with the experiments.

Major Buckley asked me to go to the Opera on Tuesday, the 29th February, and he said a young lady would be in his box who was able to read in nut-shells while she was wide awake, quite as well as the two clairvoyantes he had exhibited to me. Accordingly, I accepted his invitation, and had the good fortune to pass a very agreeable evening. Clairvoyance is always witnessed to greater perfection if the subject be not agitated or depressed. M. Marcillet often said that Alexis Didier exhibited the phenomena best when the "*entourage*" was favourable. "*ça va mieux en riant*," he said; and his observation was just. The young lady at the Opera could see no motto until she felt relieved of her first embarrassment at seeing a stranger. She read a motto in a nut-shell, which I held in my hand, accurately. Then I presented one, the motto in which was marked with my initials. She detected the mark in ink, which was blotted, and she read the lines in print quite correctly.

On Friday, the 3rd March, this lady was at Major Buckley's, when I called; the two clairvoyantes from Cheltenham were there too. I had some marked nut-shells with me. I had marked the shells as well as the mottos. The lady said of the first motto that she could see it was very dirty, it appeared stained all over; it was notched in two or more places. This was all true. It was stained with chocolate, notched with a pair of scissors in two places, and torn in another. She read the motto,—

"Oh! whate'er my fate may be,
I will ever think of thee."

When I opened this shell I found she was quite correct. I asked this lady to give me an account of how she managed to read the words on a piece of paper folded up, as these mottoes are known to be in the shell. She said the paper appeared before her in space unfolded, and she had only to read on as in a book. The two girls, A. B. and J. L., had previously told me the same thing, before they knew this lady.

E. L. volunteered to read a motto in any shell marked or otherwise. I produced one from my pocket, marked by myself. "I see," she said, "the capital letter A. written in ink, now I see J., J. A." Then she read the motto before the shell was opened,—

"Her eye discourses,
I will answer it."

When I cracked the shell, I found this was correct, except in the word *Her*, which was read for *Your*, and this error was attributed to haste and carelessness. I believe that I have tested the clairvoyance of these subjects as carefully, as watchfully, and as severely as the nature of the subject will warrant. If the greatest delicacy be not observed in these experiments, they fail. The human brain is not to be examined harshly, and he who wishes to arrive at the truth must not here torture nature. She will yield to positive persuasion, but negative violence has no charms for her. Address may gain her affections, but a doubt that she possesses the virtues of her sex affronts her sense of propriety. In chemistry and in electricity, nature is often in a delicate mood, and the arrival at truth is by arts of great nicety. But in the examination of clairvoyance, the tenderest management, most extreme delicacy of investigation, is absolutely necessary.

Figurative language is hardly allowable in severe science, but, in the present retarded state of our civilization, it is difficult to avoid the vulgar errors of the society in which we move, and to refrain from adopting the most unphilosophic tendency to explain ourselves by personifications and figures that are not quite warranted by the rules of severe analysis. New points on the functions of the brain and nerves are daily brought into notice, and we must leave those who come after us to chasten our expressions, and to sift the evidences we offer for those truths which will remain long after our labours, anxieties, and names are forgotten. We say that in the operations of the mind a fluid emanates from the brain, because the phenomena of thought and mutual interchange of ideas between individuals are accompanied by rays of colours, visible to persons who, asleep or awake, happen to be in an

exalted condition of clairvoyance. Analogies are our only warrants for calling these rays fluids. We have strong evidence of their presence being attended by an attractive force. Some of Major Buckley's subjects require occasionally, in addition to the blue colour perceived on his countenance, a few passes on the nut-shells, to enable them to read the mottos, and these passes are described as being accompanied by the emission from his fingers of a blue stream that enlightens the objects within the shells. These passes, however attractive, fail to produce clairvoyance in subjects who happen to be in an agitated condition of mind, or who are placed in circumstances where their feelings are not agreeably affected. Very careful observations have led me to coincide with other experienced students of mesmerism in this conviction. To say that these facts are not truths, because they do not tally with the preconceptions of those religionists who personify their deity and construct an idol of their false imaginations, to represent a being of whom we limited mortals can form no notion, is to say that the progress of philosophy shall be arrested until these arrogant idol worshippers shall control and comprehend the Power which pervades time, space, and eternity.*

Dr. Hodgkin is at perfect liberty to say now that I am under a delusion. I forgive him. I pity him. I had hoped better things of the philosophic power of his brain. If he really, sincerely, humbly, loyally, piously, *wishes*† to study

* Eminent physicians, with whom I have conversed on these points, remind me of a passage in Lardner's Manual of Electricity, in the *Cabinet Cyclopaedia*, vol. i., p. 47. I wish the following extract could lead them to reflect on their weak and silly want of candour; on their most unphilosophical desire to cling by their rooted prejudices.—“When these and other papers (proposing that an iron rod should be raised to a great height in the air, to convey electricity from the clouds to the earth) by Franklin, illustrating similar views, were sent to London, and read before the Royal Society, they are said to have been considered so *wild* and *absurd*, that they were *received with laughter*, and were *not considered worthy of so much notice as to be admitted into the ‘Philosophical Transactions.’* They were, however, shewn to Dr. Fothergill, who considered them of too much value to be thus stifled: and he wrote a preface to them and published them in London. *They subsequently went through five editions.* After the publication of these remarkable letters, and when public opinion in all parts of Europe had been expressed upon them, an abridgment or abstract of them was read to the Society on the 6th of June, 1751. It is a remarkable circumstance that, in this notice, *no mention whatever occurs of Franklin's project of drawing lightning from the clouds.* Possibly that was the part which before excited laughter, and was *omitted to avoid ridicule.*”—Lardner's *Cabinet Cyclopaedia: a manual of Electricity, &c.*, vol. i., p. 47.

† If the doctor has any desire to read the lucubrations of a non sequitur philosopher, who, like other men that slip away from sound logic, commit themselves, let him turn to pages 143, 144 of the third volume of *The Zoist*, and, having studied the text, he may possibly gain some improvement by the lesson on prejudice, in the note by the translator of Dr. J. B. Mege's discourse.

the subject of hallucinations, let him turn to the third, or 1845 volume of *The Zoist*, where, at pages 365 and 471, he will find some most valuable facts and observations by Dr. Elliotson. If Dr. Hodgkin be capable of large views, and have the faculty of philosophical reflection, he may learn by the aid of mesmerism to do that which has already been done by this holy power, to *cure* hallucinations, instead of talking nonsense about them.

JOHN ASHBURNER.

65, Lower Grosvenor Street, London.

XVII. *The illustrious Oken's opinion of Mesmerism.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ZOIST.

Sir.—Perusing lately the *Elements of Physiophilosophy* by the immortal Oken, the greatest mind amongst the moderns who has devoted himself to science—a man, measured with whom, the physiologists of the present day appear as pigmies, and the development of one of whose stray ideas (*Ueber die Bedeutung der Schädelknochen*) constitutes the greatest achievement of our own Owen—perusing, I say, lately, this book, I was not a little amused at observing the great contrast which his opinions on mesmerism present to those so loudly and confidently trumpeted forth to the world by some of our own celebrities in their way, who, mutilated by nature in the imaginative and higher powers of the human mind, would wish to pare down science to their own dwarfish and stunted capacities, and with that shallow and complacent presumption so peculiarly the appanage of superficiality, cry darkness at the limits of their own vision and deny the existence of every thing they cannot touch, and handle, and bottle upon the shelves of their museums. But enough of these blind leaders of the blind, whose rash dogmatism so well exemplifies the words of the poet, that,—

“Fools rush in where angels fear to tread.”

Let us listen to the voice of wisdom from the lips of a philosopher.

R. I. D. E.

“MESMERISM.

“2721. When the sensibility mounts to the highest degree, each mass-function will then almost cease, and the organs of sense feel the weakest operation of the stimulus.

“2722. Since every stimulation is a polarizing act, and each body is in polar activity towards the other at every con-

ceivable distance, so may an extremely irritable nervous system also perceive the feeblest polarizations.

"2723. The eye perceives the polarization at a remote distance from the body whence it proceeds.

"2724. In hearing, the vibrating body still indeed acts directly upon the ear through the vibrations of air; but a finer, *i. e.*, more irritable ear, hears farther than one that is more dull.

"2725. With an elevated sensibility the other systems also may, therefore, perceive the polarization of the bodies without coming into contact with them.

"2726. To perceive objects in the distance, *i. e.*, merely their polar influence, is called mesmerism or animal magnetism.

"2727. Now, if it is once possible for other senses besides that of sight, to extend their perception into remote space, it no longer matters as to the magnitude of the latter. A feebly charged electrical machine only attracts bodies that are near; one strongly loaded, those which are more remote: such is the case too with weak and strong magnets.

"2728. The integument at once perceives electrified surfaces at certain distances; now, as every surface appears electric to the integument, so must the latter, if its sensibility is very much elevated, perceive something of that sort in every proportionate distance.

"2729. But homologous polarities only act upon each other, and therefore traverse thoroughly through heterologous bodies. Thus the magnet attracts the iron filings through the table-board, unhindered by the interposed wood, and without any regard being paid to this, or its being even perceived.

"2730. The senses may therefore perceive their homologous polarities through other bodies, walls and such like. By virtue of their perception, they stand in relation to them.

"2731. To the very sensible nervous system, the vegetable system and its impulse is a foreign object, which detaches itself from the above system, just as the objects of sense have done from the sensorial organs. The vegetable, or in general the material body appears, therefore, to the mesmerised like a strange world, they see their own organs,—are clairvoyants. Mesmerism, therefore, comprises nothing which could contradict physiology."—*Elements of Physiophilosophy*, (p. 448). By Lorenz Oken, M.D., Professor of Natural History at the University of Zürich, &c. From the German, by Alfred Tulk, M. R. C. S. E. Printed for the Ray Society. London, 1847.

BOOK RECEIVED.

Philosophy of Animated Nature ; or, the Laws and Action of the Nervous System. By G. Calvert Holland, M.D., Physician extraordinary to the Sheffield General Infirmary.

We rejoice to see that this distinguished physician fearlessly speaks of phrenology and mesmerism, and the mesmeric excitement of the cerebral organs, as indisputable truths.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Although we have printed seven sheets instead of our stipulated number six, several communications are deferred till next quarter. Among them is a remarkable **MESMERIC CURE**, BY DR. ELLIOTSON, OF GENUINE CANCER OF THE BREAST, pronounced such by several physicians and surgeons, and condemned to immediate extirpation by a truly eminent professor and hospital surgeon above three years ago.

Mr. NOEL's proffered paper will be very acceptable.

Mr. Epsworth.—We can give no information respecting the lecturer whose conduct Mr. Epsworth represents as so disgraceful.

MATERIALISM.—So uninformed are most persons, that we every day hear men spoken of with horror as materialists. Now a man may be not only most conscientious, but most devout; nay, be a sincere and fervent Christian, aye, and a trinitarian Christian too, and most evangelical, and yet be a materialist. That is, a man who believes that the matter of his organized and living brain is endowed with such properties that it wills, feels, and thinks, and that these *by nature* decay and cease for ever with the brain at its decay, death and disintegration, may also believe that, by the will of God, by an additional and miraculous grant, they will exist again with a brain reproduced but, however glorified, still matter; according to the Fourth Article of the Church of England, which asserts that Christ, the first fruits of them that slept, sits at the right hand of the Father, with "his body, with flesh, bones, and all things appertaining to the perfection of man's nature." We urge this, because we know that many excellent persons who take such a view of a future state are vilified and called atheists, infidels, sceptics, and cruelly injured, from the total ignorance of the majority of people, even of the higher ranks, that, though the term materialist is sometimes used to signify an atheist, it has another and most innocent signification, relating, not to supernatural things, but to an innocent opinion on a natural thing. Yes; a man may be a true Christian, of any protestant denomination, though not of the Roman Catholic persuasion, and yet be a materialist. We beg those who have not reflected much on this subject, but think, as parrots talk, by imitation, to read Bishop Law's *Theory of Religion*, Bishop Sherlock's *Discourses*, Bishop Watson's *Anecdotes* of his own Life, and Archbishop Tillotson.

✍ It is requested that all communications may be addressed to the Publisher, Mr. Baillière, 219, Regent Street, and at least a month before the day of publication.