

THE ZOIST.

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I. *Dr. Esdaile and the London Medical Gazette.* By Dr.
ELLIOTSON.

"When such men as Sir David Brewster are compelled by sheer force of direct evidence of their own senses, to admit the truthfulness of these extraordinary phenomena, is it too much to ask the *learned* and *scientific* Mr. Wakley, and the other medical grandees who swear by him and his *Lancet*—is it, we say, too much to beg of even these infallible autocrats of science, to suspend their sneers and allow ordinary mortals to attach some little weight to the evidence of their own eyes? We fear it is too much to ask anything so unreasonable. Although these doctors confess with one breath that they have never investigated the subject for themselves, and with the next breath admit their almost complete ignorance of the laws of organic life or nervous phenomena,—they yet strenuously refuse to credit the assertions of any body else, no matter how trustworthy and sober-minded, who professes to have witnessed the facts for himself. It certainly matters very little, so far as these worthies themselves are concerned, what they believe or what they disbelieve. But the misfortune is, that so many other people who pin their faith implicitly on such blind guides, are prevented from examining for themselves."—*Mechanic's Magazine*, May 10, 1851. p. 368.

I RECEIVED from Dr. Esdaile, last August, a letter dated July 1st, in which he wrote,

"By last mail I sent a paper to the *Medical Gazette*, containing 161 mesmeric operations for scrotal tumors, with a list of all my other operations, and a short *resumé* of the history of mesmerism in India. Will they dare to refuse it? I have particularly requested that the article may not be destroyed, if not accepted, as a friend will call for it, and I hope you will do me that friendly office if the paper does not appear in a reasonable time. You make what use you please of it."

In the *London Medical Gazette*, for September 6th, appeared the following article,—

"ON THE OPERATION FOR THE REMOVAL OF SCROTAL TUMORS,
ETC.,

THE EFFECTS OF MESMERISM AND CHLOROFORM COMPARED,

By JAMES ESDAILE, M.D., Marine Surgeon, Calcutta.

"I AM induced to address you in consequence of having read, in the February number of the *Medical Gazette*, an account of a fatal operation performed at Alexandria for the removal of a large scrotal tumor. As I have probably performed more operations of this description than have taken place all over the world, you and your readers will not be displeased perhaps to learn the practical results of so extensive an experience.

"From the rarity of this disease in temperate climates, this operation is comparatively a novelty to European surgeons.

"These singular and often prodigious tumors are so common in Bengal, that they may be considered as an endemic curse of the climate. The disease in a great measure is confined to Bengal and the sea-board of India. A hot, moist, malarious, and relaxing climate seems to favour its invasion, as it is rarely met with in Upper India. In Egypt it is also principally confined to the Delta of the Nile, and is seldom seen above Cairo. It is also prevalent in the West Indian Islands. All these tumors are generally called "elephantiasis of the scrotum;" but this is incorrect, as simple hydrocele is probably the origin of nine-tenths of those here, the remainder being divided between syphilis, leprosy, and elephantiasis. There is a most remarkable predisposition to hydrocele prevalent among this population, the extent of which may be imagined from the fact that about 2000 cases are operated upon yearly in the hospitals of Calcutta; and this is the perennial source of the inexhaustible supply of this kind of surgery.

"The native treatment, which is worse than useless, is to make deep eschars in the tumor with red-hot charcoal balls, which often brings on an intense inflammation, deep sloughing, and fatal hæmorrhage, and never, as far as I know, causing a resolution of the tumor. On the contrary, I am convinced that it accelerates its growth by the local irritation; and it causes a most vexatious complication of the case to the surgeon operating, as the testes are always adherent to these cicatrices, and often completely involved in them. The disease sometimes only attacks the colic, which assumes the appearance of an elephant's trunk, hanging down to the knees, and ending in a wart bigger than a man's fist. But however fantastic or monstrous the shape may be, the colic

is always found unchanged, and *in situ*; and in these proboscis-like productions it may be at once found, by cutting down upon a cane pushed up to the pubes, or, still better by slitting the tube up with a very long strong *bistouri caché* thrust up to the symphysis pubis. The operation for the removal of scrotal tumors, till of late, was considered so formidable, that few surgeons cared to deal with large cases; and Dr. Goollene, of the Medical College, Calcutta, who had considerable experience in this line, thus speaks of it in vol. viii. of the *Transactions of the Medical and Physical Society of Calcutta* ;—

“ It is clear that this operation is one of imminent danger; in which, hitherto, it has appeared that the chances for and against the recovery of the patient are evenly balanced.”

“ The practical conclusions I have come to from 161 operations are—

“ I. That so far from this being the case, the results are marvellously satisfactory, even when the tumors weigh 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100lbs. and more, provided the operation can be got through quickly enough,—in from three to six minutes, and *in the mesmeric trance*. In 161 operations for the removal of tumors, from the size of a man's head to 103lbs., the mortality has only been *five per cent.*; but in no instance has death been caused directly by the operation, or followed soon after it, but at the distance of many days, weeks, or months, in consequence of lock-jaw, fever, cholera, diarrhoea, and exhaustion of the system;—from what may be called hospital diseases, and accidents in the course of the cure; and this has been going on with all the regularity of a law of nature for the last five years.

“ II. That, when the constitution is good, the patient not above 40 years of age, and the tumor does not exceed 40lbs., or possibly 50lbs., it is quite practicable to save all the organs without much danger.

“ III. That when the age of the man and the size of the tumor exceed this, no attempt should be made to save the testes; because the patient will either bleed to death in the attempt, or, if not, the testes will be found to be useless after all, and requiring to be removed. But, even supposing the patient to escape with his life, and the testes to be sound, his constitution would not be able to perform the process of covering them again; they would slough, and require a second operation for their removal, or the man would die exhausted in the effort at reparation, as we have more than once seen. I therefore never attempt to preserve the testes when the tumor is above 50lbs. (unless the man is strong and robust);

but the colic, with one exception, has been always saved, however large the mass.

"I will now present your readers with some illustrative cases, taken from the beginning, middle, and end of my practice, and will conclude with some practical remarks on the propriety or otherwise of administering chloroform in such operations.

"The following is among the first mesmeric operations for this disease;—

"Sept. 2nd, 1845. I was stopped on the road to-day, and requested to go into a temple to see a sick Fu Queen. On entering, I found a healthy-looking man of 60; but he was nearly blind from cataracts, and had a scrotal tumor of about 30lbs. weight, which he begged me to remove. I examined it, said I would consider of it, and then drove on to Chinsurah to see Dr. Ross, the surgeon in charge of the troops there; to whom I said, that if he chose to return with me I would endeavour to show him a mesmeric operation. He willingly consented; and, in passing the Fu Queen's house, we carried him to the hospital along with us. The cook of the hospital, one of my best mesmerisers, was set upon him, and in half an hour made him insensible. Considering the man's age, and the size of the tumor, we did not think it worth while to save the testes, and the operation was therefore very soon effected. The man never moved, and did not awake till after the last artery was tied. Seeing him about to awake, he was covered with a sheet, and asked, when he came to his senses, if he had been in any way disturbed in his sleep: he said 'No.' He was then desired to sit up and show the tumor, as I wished to examine it. He did so, and actually put his hands down to raise the mass as usual; and his look of amazement on missing it was something not to be forgotten.

"Dr. Ross published an account of this and other operations in which he assisted me.

"Oct. 25th, 1845. Gooroochuru Shah, a shopkeeper, aged 40. He has got a monster tumor, which prevents him moving: its great weight, and his having used it as a writing desk for many years has pressed it into the shape of a gigantic cocked hat. His pulse is very weak, and his feet œdematous, which will make it very hazardous to attempt its removal; but life is literally a burden with such an appendage, and he is willing to risk life for the chance of getting rid of it. Having no precedent to guide me, and knowing that expedition was his only safety, I determined to make it a case of decollation as much as possible, without attempting to save

the colic even. He became insensible on the fourth day of mesmerising, and was drawn on the mattress to the end of the bed. Two men held up the mass in a sheet, extending its neck, and I took it off by a circular incision. The loss of blood was immense, and he immediately fainted, but recovered without great difficulty in a short time. After tying the last vessel, the mattress was again pulled back upon the bed with him upon it; and at this moment he awoke, and said that nothing had disturbed him. We had no time to spare, certainly; but I saw that the colic might have been spared, and in every subsequent case it has been so.

"At the end of a year I reported to government that one hundred operations of all kinds had been performed by me in the mesmeric trance, without the patients knowing anything about it; and I offered to demonstrate the truth of my statement to any number of persons in whom the Government had confidence. Upon this a mesmeric committee was organized by order of Sir Herbert Maddock, the Deputy Governor of Bengal, to witness and report upon operations to be performed by me before them. For this purpose I came down to Calcutta from Hooghly, and in the course of fourteen days performed seven mesmeric operations in the presence of the committee; and this is the summary of the committee's observations:—

"In all these cases, without exception, after the operation was completed, the patients expressed no knowledge or recollection of what had occurred, denied having dreamed, and complained of no pain till their attention was directed to the place where the operation was performed'—(Mesmeric Committee's Report).

"Among the operations performed before the Committee was a completely successful one of amputation of the thigh: but as this paper is devoted to scrotal tumors, I will proceed to the first very remarkable case that occurred after I came to Calcutta;—

"A few days after the Committee had ceased to sit, a man came to the Native Hospital, where the Committee held their meetings, with an enormous tumor, and I put him under treatment.

"Oct. 9th, 1846. Horoonundo Saha, aged 27, hearing that I was in Calcutta, came to the Native Hospital to-day with an immense tumor. It measured seven feet in circumference, and two feet round its neck. The disease began seven years ago with hydrocele, and its progress has been very rapid for the last three years. Although the tumor is actually as heavy as his whole body (he appears to be under

8 stone weight), his person is in tolerable condition, and his constitution does not seem much broken.

"10th. He was mesmerised to-day for the first time, for two hours by two persons, taking one hour each. He slept profoundly, and was partially cataleptic. The best mode of managing the mass, described hereafter, was rehearsed without awaking him.

"11th. No mesmeric effects to-day, on account of his system being deranged by the periodic (?) * that very generally attends these tumors.

"12th. The mesmeric phenomena are less marked than on the first day. He is still feverish.

"13th. This day being excessively stormy I did not go to the hospital, thinking that the gentlemen interested in the progress of the case would not venture out in such bad weather. At 2 o'clock, p.m., I received a note from Mr. Hume, a magistrate of Calcutta, and a member of the late mesmeric committee, informing me that the patient had that day exhibited the most perfect catalepsy, and that 'I might have made minced meat of him.'

"14th. The same appearances being present to-day, I proceeded to operate upon him. The tumor had been daily tied up in a sheet, to which a rope was attached rove through a pulley in a rafter. The colic was dissected out. The mattress was then hauled down to the end of the bed; his legs were held asunder, and the pulley was put in motion to support the mass and develope its neck. It was transfixed with the longest two-edged knife, which was found to be too short, as I had to dig the haft of the mass to make the point appear below, and it was removed by two semicircular incisions right and left. The flow of venous blood was prodigious, but soon moderated under pressure of the hands, the vessels being picked up as fast as possible. The mass, after half an hour, weighed 103lbs., and was as heavy as the man's whole body. During the whole operation I was not sensible of a quiver of his flesh. Dr. Duncan Stewart, Presidency surgeon, and a member of the late mesmeric committee, held his pulse all the time, and had the best opportunities of observation: he has kindly furnished me with the following notes;—

"Dr. Stewart's Notes.

"The time occupied in the operation was six minutes, including the application of ligatures to the spermatic arteries, and three or four other vessels that spouted. The arterial hæmorrhage was very small indeed, but the welling of blood

* Omission in Manuscript.

at the moment of each transverse cut was appalling. The loss could not have been less than ten or twelve pounds. The patient remained throughout most perfectly still and motionless. I held his pulse the whole time, and counted it carefully. Immediately on the removal of the tumor it sank to zero; his face became pale, and cold sweat bedewed his forehead: it was not till his head was lowered that he recovered from the collapse caused by so sudden and great a withdrawal of vital stimulus from the heart and brain. The pulse gradually returned, and was found, when first counted, to be 120, very small, compressible, and intermitting, but there was not the slightest evidence of consciousness or pain.

"It was now found necessary by Dr. Taylor and myself to pour some wine and hartshorn down his throat; but, as he could not swallow in this state, it was allowed us to dash cold water in his face, blow in his eyes, and fan him; by which means he awoke from his trance, recovered sufficient sensibility to drink some brandy and water, and presently subsided into perfect repose: the pulse, however, remained very weak, and settled at 100. The patient was then carefully removed to a clean bed: he passed a good night; the wound was stitched and strapped the following day; and on visiting him this morning, I found him looking composed, and sleeping soundly, the parts looking well, and with every prospect of a most successful cure.

"(Signed)

D. STEWART, M.D."

"The operation was performed in a room full of spectators, including the Secretaries of Government, and many medical and unprofessional gentlemen. Although this operation was not performed before the committee, it was ordered to be printed in their report by the Government.

"The man is now well and fat.

"On receipt of the mesmeric committee's report, which was printed by order of the Government, the Deputy-Governor determined to give me an experimental hospital for a year, which intention was thus intimated:—'So far has the possibility of rendering the most severe surgical operations painless to the subject of them been, in his honour's opinion, established by the late experiments performed under the eye of a committee appointed for the purpose, as to render it incumbent on the Government to afford to the meritorious and zealous officer by whom the subject was first brought to its notice, such assistance as may facilitate his investigations, and enable him to prosecute his interesting experiments under the most favourable and promising circumstances.' (Letter

of the Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the President of the Mesmeric Committee).

"Forty-six capital operations were performed within the year in the experimental hospital; and, as the last operation has the novelty of having been performed by a native surgeon, I shall give it only.

"Dec. 23rd, 1847. Luckynaram Day, aged 37, mesmerised for the first time to-day. He bore pricking and pinching very well, and only a slight shiver of the skin took place when he was touched with a bit of live charcoal. He resisted all the usual means of demesmerising, but awoke instantly on having cold water squirted into his eyes.

"4th. Found deeply entranced to-day: he was pricked and pinched with the same results as yesterday, and could not be roused by the loudest noises. Some sulphate of magnesia was put into his mouth with difficulty, as his jaws were firmly clenched, as usually happens. The tongue remained quite passive, and the mouth gradually closed again. His nose was also put into a bottle of carbonate of ammonia, and he inhaled the fumes like common air. Repeated attempts were made to demesmerise him: his eyes were rubbed, opened, and sharply blown into, without the least effect. He was at last awakened by his eyes being syringed with cold water; and the moment he came to his senses he began to retch, and said that his mouth was disgustingly bitter—why, he could not tell.

"5th. In the same state to-day. This man was quite ready the first day, but the operation was put off at the request of some persons who desired to be present.

"6th. The operation was performed to-day by my assistant, Baboo Budunchandea, in the presence of Dr. Mouat, and other gentlemen. The colic having been first freed, an incision was made in the course of the right cord, which exposed a large hydrocele sac, on opening which a great quantity of bloody pus escaped. As this convinced us that the testis was useless, it was no farther sought for, but was removed with the mass, after the left one had been dissected out. The left testis was also found to be involved in a hydrocele; and as the tunica vaginalis was much thickened and hardened, it was dissected off the testis and cord; all which he bore like a dead body. He was demesmerised a quarter of an hour after all was over; and when asked, said he had slept soundly, without being in any way disturbed, and was as strong as usual. He could not be convinced that he had been operated on till the part was shown to him. On seeing it he was overjoyed, and begged me to pare down his legs in the same way, as they were both elephantoid.

"Mr. O'Shaughnessy, Professor of Surgery in the Medical College, Calcutta, tells us that, since the discovery of ether and chloroform, 'Mesmerism no longer deserves the serious consideration of the operating surgeon;' and this brings me to the question of the propriety of administering chloroform in cases of large scrotal tumors. If my views are correct, they have a much more extensive application.

"If chloroform is resorted to at all (and I very rarely require to do so), I see no reason to suppose that it will not be as successful in moderate sized tumors as in amputations, &c. But in my last half-yearly report of the Mesmeric Hospital I asked:—

"'Who would dare to remove scrotal tumors weighing from fifty to one hundred pounds and more, under the influence of any narcotic drug whatever? Not I, certainly; and I would earnestly dissuade any one from attempting it, or suffering it to be done to him. We all now know that chloroform has a tendency to paralyse the heart, lungs, and brain, and it requires no doctor's learning to be convinced that such exhausting operations can only be performed with a chance of success in cases where the vital powers are intact. When these tumors weigh above forty pounds, the loss of blood is so profuse that the pulse is usually extinguished on the spot, and it takes a considerable time to revive it; the brain is so exhausted by the sudden withdrawal of blood, that the patient generally faints, and awakes in a half delirious state, and, the stomach sympathizing, vomiting also takes place, and hours elapse before the equilibrium of the sanguineous and nervous systems is re-established.

"'In the last tumor of four pounds I ordered the solid clots to be gathered, and they weighed two and a half pounds; and, taking into account the serum on the floor, with the blood in the mass, I presume that about five pounds of blood were lost in as many minutes; and we have seen that Dr. Stewart estimated the loss of blood at ten or twelve pounds in the monster tumor.

"'It must be evident to every one that persons fainting from this immense hæmorrhage would probably (rather certainly) never revive if the vitality of the heart, lungs, and brain, was lowered by any additional influence whatever.'

"A girl lately died at the Medical College here a few minutes after the extraction of an eye; and Mr. O'Shaughnessy, the operator, made the following remarks upon the case:—'The unfortunate result in this instance I am disposed to attribute entirely to the insensibility produced by chloroform. The loss of blood was trifling, the time occupied by

the operation was short, and there was no important organ implicated by the removal of the diseased parts. The child fainted; and, owing to the general insensibility, the attempt at reaction was imperfect, asphyxia followed, and she expired.'

"But though *fainting, asphyxia, and death* followed the administration of the chloroform, we are plainly told by Mr. O'Shaughnessy that this valuable drug possesses 'no poisonous properties!' Mr. O'Shaughnessy more truly says afterwards, however, 'that all narcotic drugs are open to the objection that they prevent the reaction necessary for recovery from injuries attended with great exhaustion of the system.' Dr. Goodeve, who, as he told me, has known and believed in mesmerism for the last twenty years, and fully appreciates its practical and philosophic interest, on seeing me remove a seventy-pound tumor lately under the mesmeric influence, said, on witnessing the state the man was reduced to, that, if there had been a drop of chloroform in the man's blood, he would never have breathed again. In the very last operation on a worn-out man of fifty (weight of tumor eighty pounds), I emphatically pronounced him *dead*, although the operation was performed in two and a half minutes. He at last gave a gasp, however, and in ten minutes was out of all danger, and is about to quit the hospital. Does any one believe that this man would have ever gasped again if his blood had been saturated with chloroform, or his vitality in any way depressed? Mesmerism is not open to the same objections; *for it not only protects, but exalts the nervous system*, as we know from extensive experience both in medical and surgical cases.

"My warning against the use of chloroform in large tumor cases no sooner reached Madras than, as if to establish my character of a true prophet, we immediately heard of a fatal case there; and the occurrence of another at Alexandria goes to confirm my predictions. I would on no account be aiding and abetting in giving chloroform in *monster cases* of scrotal tumors, being convinced that the patient, if he cannot be mesmerised, has a better chance of life if operated on in his natural state. In one case of eighty pounds, the man could not be affected by mesmerism, and I removed the mass in his waking state: he recovered very well. In another refractory case of fifty pounds, in which all the organs were sound, I would not give chloroform, and the man did perfectly well.

"Calcutta, May 6th, 1850.

"*.* Want of space has compelled us to omit from this

paper some passages which appeared to us to have no immediate relation to the subject, as well as the long list of operations and the large accompanying illustration."

In the *Calcutta Morning Chronicle*, of December 12th, were the following remarks,—

"We have to congratulate the medical mesmerists on their facts being at last permitted to be made known to the profession and the public through a Medical Journal!

"In the *Medical Gazette*, just received, we see a paper from Dr. Esdaile,—'On the operation for the removal of scrotal tumors, &c.' So far well: it is something to see the *unclean thing* admitted into the pages of a *pure Medical Journal*, which has hitherto (in common with the whole tribe) never mentioned Mesmerism without insult and injury.

"Although the editor of the *Medical Gazette* has not dared to suppress this paper, he has ventured, we are informed, to do something as cowardly and unjustifiable, by mutilating the paper according to his liking, and leaving out many interesting and important points. The *burking* commences with the very title of Dr. Esdaile's communication, which was, *One hundred and sixty-one Mesmeric Operations for the removal of Scrotal Tumors*. By the change of the title, and the corresponding suppressions in the text, the reader cannot learn that *all these operations were performed in the mesmeric trance*. A short *resumé* of the progress of mesmerism in Calcutta was worked into the paper, we are told; and this has been mercilessly struck out, 'as having no immediate connexion with the subject;' although the veriest owl could not make such a narrative stupid in relating it to persons totally ignorant of the subject, like the editor and his readers. Appended to the paper was a long list of miscellaneous capital mesmeric operations, amounting to upwards of 250, drawn up on purpose to confute the stupid lie that mesmerism was only useful in the removal of tumors! This list was also of importance from showing the mortality in mesmeric surgery (five per cent.) for comparison with other systems; but it is suppressed, for 'having no immediate connexion with the subject,' we presume.

"An illustration of the *ILLUSTRIOUS MONSTER TUMOR*, weighing 103lbs., was also sent, but has met the same fate, and for the like reason, no doubt. It was not '*connected with the subject*,' we suppose, after being cut off his body!

"But when a favourite dentist's lectures are reported in the *Medical Gazette*, every page is profusely illustrated with wood engravings.

"Let an outline drawing of the most remarkable morbid mass in the world be sent for publication, however, and it is contemptuously *burked*—because it is a triumph of mesmerism. Dr. Justinus Kerner himself, although he does not in the least doubt that Dr. Esdaile has performed the most painful operations without the knowledge of the patients—that being quite within his knowledge of mesmerism,—yet begs leave to limit his belief when it comes to details. His imagination, it seems, is crushed under the weight of a tumor above 60lbs.; and the *Medical Gazette* will not condescend to assist its equally unimaginative readers by eyesight, and authenticated weights and measurements taken on the spot.

"We have no doubt that the *Medical Gazette* will soon be boasting of its magnanimity and impartiality in admitting this mesmeric communication; but we are sure, that Dr. Esdaile and all lovers of truth and fair play will regard its unwarrantable mutilation as a greater insult than its total suppression.

"We venture to ask again, in the most respectful manner, how long the doctors intend to tolerate such conduct in the editors of medical journals?"

II. *Mesmeric Infirmary.*

THE annual meeting of the friends and subscribers of this institution was held on Wednesday, May 7, at the Infirmary, No. 9, Bedford Street, Bedford Square—the Rev. George Sandby, in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN opened the proceedings by expressing his regret at the unavoidable absence of their president, the Earl of Ducie, and a number of their noble and influential supporters. At the same time, he could not but congratulate them on the progress their institution had made during the past year. They would see by the report that there had been a great variety of cases treated most successfully. He had been in the habit of frequently attending the hospital, and had invariably found the committee sedulously attentive to their duties, and the mesmerisers performing their various offices in the most efficient manner. He was happy to say that their funds were also improving and several donations had been sent to them. Amongst these donations, he was proud to tell them, was one from the Archbishop of Dublin, who invariably followed out the truth faithfully and fearlessly in all matters, and also one from Earl Stan-

hope. Besides these, many other zealous and kind friends had rallied round them, and he thought they were justified in saying they were steadily and progressively forming an important nucleus amongst themselves, the effect of which would be felt through the kingdom. But, whilst he expressed his pleasure at finding so many had joined them, he could not refrain from avowing his regret that there were several distinguished persons who had benefited from their system whose names were still wanting. (Hear, hear.) He could not, however, help thinking that their absence was rather a proof of the strength of their institution than of its weakness, although that might appear paradoxical. For when they first commenced operations they were confined to a small body: but they rallied round each other, confident in their hopes of success. Time passed on, and this, like all other great and important truths, could now afford to have subdivisions amongst its disciples. They must all be aware that there were differences of opinion amongst the adherents of mesmerism on several points—some leaning to spiritual, some to material,* and some to physiological views; but, however,

* That Mr. Sandby may not be misconceived, we insert our following passage from No. XXI., p. 112:—"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."

Locke says, "All the difficulties that are raised against the thinking of matter, from our ignorance or narrow conceptions, stand not at all in the way of the power of God, if he pleases to ordain it so." The faculties of brutes prove, "either that God can and doth give to some parcels of matter a power of perception and thinking, or that all animals have immaterial and consequently immortal souls as well as men; and to say that fleas and mites, &c., have immortal souls as well as men, will possibly be looked on as going a great way to serve an hypothesis."—*Second Reply to the Bishop of Worcester*, p. 466., 8vo. edition.

divergent their opinions might be on some points, he trusted they would all join heart and hand in the promulgation of the truth of the one great cause they had in view. Their object was to relieve and alleviate suffering humanity in every shape and form. (Cheers.) Therefore, in a great cause like that, it behoved every sect, every creed, to unite and give a helping hand, both by their persons and their purses. (Hear, hear.) He believed the time was not far distant when the medical profession would also be converts to their system, and rally round them in their works of charity and love, and when the sons would blush to think that their fathers had been the foes of mesmerism—(cheers)—and when the hospitals would be anxious to have their assistance and support. There was one part of the report to which he felt particularly anxious to direct their attention. A proposition had been made

Dr. Law, Bishop of Carlisle, in his *Theory of Religion, &c.*, which went through seven editions, asserts that the sentence of death passed upon Adam and Eve meant nothing less than a *total destruction of existence*; and that the idea of its implying a continuation of consciousness and real existence in some other place than earth, is not sanctioned by Scripture, but is the *philosophy of after-ages*.—p. 345. He adds, that Archbishop Tillotson, though a patron of this notion, confesses it is not found in the Bible: and, after a critical and elaborate examination of the words used in Scripture to denote *soul* and *spirit*, and their various applications, he sums up the enquiry thus:—"But neither do *these words*, nor any other, so far as I can find, ever stand for a *purely immaterial principle* in man, or a substance, whatever some imagine they mean by that word, wholly separable from, and independent of, the body."

Bishop Sherlock employs strong expressions:—"Scholars may reason on the nature of the soul, and the condition of it when separated from the body: but the common hopes of nature receive no support from such enquiries. We die and moulder to dust; and in that state, what we are, or where we are, nature cannot say." *Discourses* ii., p. 85, and vol. iv., p. 79.

"In the ordinary derivation of plants and animals," says Paley, "from one another, a *particle*, in many cases minuter than all assignable, all conceivable dimensions; an aura, an effluvium, an infinitesimal; determines the organization of a future body: does no less than fix, whether that which is about to be produced shall be a vegetable, a merely sentient, or a *RATIONAL being*; an oak, a frog, or a *philosopher*; makes all these differences; gives to the future body its qualities, and nature, and species. And this *particle*, from which *springs*, and by which is determined, a whole future nature, itself *proceeds* from, and owes its constitution to, a prior body," &c.—*Natural Theology*, conclusion, p. 591.

Bishop Watson says, "when I went to the University, I was of opinion, as most schoolboys are, that the soul was a substance distinct from the body, and that when a man died, he, in classical phrase, breathed out his soul, *animam expiravit*; that it then went I knew not whither, as it had come into the body, from I knew not where nor when, and had dwelt in the body during life, but in what part of the body it had dwelt I knew not." "This notion of the soul was, without doubt, the offspring of prejudice and ignorance."—"Believing as I do in the truth of the Christian religion, which teaches that men are accountable for their actions, I trouble not myself with dark disquisitions concerning necessity and liberty, matter and spirit; hoping as I do for eternal life through Jesus Christ, I am not disturbed at my inability clearly to convince myself that the soul is or is not a substance distinct from the body."—*Anecdotes of the Life of Bishop Watson*, p. 14. sqq.

that the committee should have the power of adding ladies to their number. This might seem rather a novel proceeding, but he hoped that it would be received favourably, for there were many reasons of a peculiar nature, which it was unnecessary for him to mention, why such a suggestion was exceedingly advisable. The presence of ladies would, in a great measure, silence all the suspicions of low and vulgar minds, who, conscious of their own iniquity, judged others by themselves. (Cheers.) To the ladies they were already greatly indebted, for, through their instrumentality, mesmerism had been introduced into families with the greatest success. In supporting this institution, they all had two grand objects in view, the extension of a great truth, and the alleviation of much human suffering and the cure of grievous complaints. The rev. gentleman concluded by calling upon Dr. Elliotson, the treasurer, to read the report.

The following Report was then read:—

"It was at the house of the Earl of Ducie, on the 9th of January, 1846, that the London Mesmeric Infirmary was founded: and, on the 25th of March, 1850, the committee sent a notice to every donor and subscriber that this house was open for the mesmerisation of patients. At first the committee did not feel justified in engaging more than one mesmeriser, the secretary himself promising to mesmerise at least two patients daily. But, on the 10th of June, they engaged a second. These two persons were William Fisher and Charles Mayhew, both recommended by Mr. Tubbs, surgeon, of Upwell, Cambridgeshire, and previously employed by him to his satisfaction as mesmerisers. During the last month, a third, a married woman, recommended by Dr. Ashburner, was engaged: and all three perform their duties satisfactorily,—with regularity, diligence, care, kindness, and propriety.

"The committee are most happy to inform the donors and subscribers that, since the 17th of November, they have had the services of Mr. Capern as secretary; the former secretary having resigned. Of Mr. Capern's mesmeric strength to assuage suffering and cure disease, of his devotion to the healing powers of mesmerism, of his indefatigableness, his disinterestedness and benevolence, they need not speak. He has fulfilled all the expectations which were formed of him from his previous history. He is present in the public rooms of the Institution from 10 till 4 o'clock, mesmerises many patients himself, and superintends the processes of the three mesmerisers, who attend daily, except Sunday, from 10 till 4

o'clock, and are allowed each, but not all at the same time, an hour in the middle of the day for dinner.

"The committee meet every Wednesday at two o'clock, and a complete account of the work of every day is read to them:—the history of each patient during the preceding week is detailed: his or her attendance, the length of time that he or she was mesmerised, the name of the mesmeriser, the mode of mesmerising and the effects, together with the remedial results which were observed at the end of the week. Fresh applicants are seen by the committee and examined by its medical members, and those persons who cease to be patients present and report themselves.

"Ninety-one patients have been mesmerised,—54 males and 37 females: 29 are at present on the books,—19 males and 10 females. The greater part of the diseases have been palsy, neuralgia, rheumatism, epilepsy, St. Vitus's dance, and intense nervousness: and nearly all the cases had been of long duration before they came under our care, and had resisted various and frequently severe modes of treatment under numerous well-informed medical gentlemen. Their chronic character rendered it impossible for mesmerism to produce many rapid cures. This circumstance, and the engagements and difficulties of the poor, together with the frequency of impatience, fickleness, and childishness common among human beings of all ranks, caused many to give up our services before a fair trial was made: and, indeed, some after a few visits. With the majority of those who received no benefit, or no permanent benefit, this was the fact: and they amount to 28. Twenty-four left before their cure was complete, but were more or less benefitted, and many very much benefitted, so that they were able and desirous to return to their employments.

"Some very striking cases have occurred. We may mention one of epilepsy in a child who was brought above a year ago. Not only has there been no fit for above six months, though previously the attacks were frequent and severe, but the child's appearance and general health have undergone a remarkable improvement—a circumstance which mesmerisers are in the habit of witnessing, whatever may be the disease.

"There is an equally satisfactory cure of epilepsy in another child.

"A child, with a leg shortened through disease of the hip, was received at the end of November: and on the 14th of April the father, who had previously procured the best treat-

ment for his boy in vain, declared that the amelioration had exceeded all his expectations, and the improvement in the general health was remarkable. The child is still under treatment, and may be seen.

"On the 9th of last April, a man applied with an almost total inability to open his mouth, and an inability to swallow anything but fluids; and those he swallowed with extreme difficulty, so that he feared being starved. He had received public and private medical attendance for several weeks, and been informed that his complaint was palsy of the mouth and throat; and so indeed it was, but from cold, not from internal disease. One local mesmerisation by Mr. Capern enabled him in ten minutes to swallow his saliva, and on returning home he ate a rasher of bacon: and by repetitions of the treatment he has been enabled to eat all solids at his meals and to return to his work.

"A man, 75 years of age, who laboured under palsy of one side of his system and had received no benefit before, can now walk many miles a day. He is still under treatment and may be seen. The very first day he felt the mesmeric influence like a hot steam.

"A very remarkable case is that of a dumb boy, 14 years of age, who had been palsied from his birth and totally unable to walk. He had been in many hospitals and under many private medical gentlemen: and been refused admission into St. Bartholomew's Hospital from the conviction of the medical officer that his case was hopeless. He was first mesmerised on the 2nd of February, and an improvement was discernible after the first mesmerisation. After the sixth he could positively walk across the room without assistance, and, on the 27th of March, he walked from the Infirmary into Tottenham Court Road. He is still under treatment and may be seen. His father was lately absent from town, and on his return was astonished at the improvement.

"A dreadful case of despondency, with pains and noises in the head, giddiness, and dimness of sight, in a man 56 years of age, is yielding in a remarkable manner. Various medical gentlemen did their best, but in vain; and month after month life became a greater burden to him. He was admitted here in April, and now makes the following statement:—"All my accumulated afflictions have been gradually subsiding; indeed, some of them, the giddiness and noises in the head, together with the great nervous oppression and dismal gloomy forebodings, have already left me, never, I hopefully trust, to return. My hearing and my eyesight are progressing favourably, the latter most especially, as I can

now read better without glasses than I could see to read with them previously to being mesmerised.' This patient is still under treatment, and may be seen.

"We must not pass over the case of Catherine Brown, 7, King's Head-yard, Tooley-street, 57 years of age. When seven years old she fell down in a fit, and was unconscious for twenty-four hours. She had a similar attack monthly till she became a patient here, last February; and, for seven or eight days after the fit, she was invariably so weak as to be unable to attend to her avocations, and indeed was at no time able to attend to them properly. She suffered agonizing pains. She was treated by numerous medical gentlemen in London and in Ireland, without the least benefit. Her agonies frequently made her contemplate self-murder. She was three times in Guy's Hospital and twice in St. Thomas's, the last time for four months. She applied to a dispensary also, and the surgeon told her she had *tic douloureux*; and, in attempting to extract several of her teeth, broke some of them. From the first attack, above 44 years ago, she was never free from pain, and took large quantities of laudanum when under medical treatment. She saw Mr. Capern early in February, and he mesmerised her head with contact for a quarter of an hour. The pain instantly and entirely ceased; and from that moment she has not experienced the slightest pain, nor has she had a fit. On leaving the infirmary that day she called upon her niece at Islington, and, feeling a great desire to sleep, sat down in a chair and fell into a sleep so profound that her relatives were alarmed, and supposed that her doctor had given her too large a dose of laudanum. She woke spontaneously in four hours, greatly refreshed, and has remained well to this very time.

"We trust that the public will soon be satisfied of mesmerism being beneficial not only in such diseases as those hitherto treated here, but in every other: curing by itself in some instances, and in others powerfully aiding the medical and surgical measures of established utility that may be proper, nay indispensable.

"Many cases cannot be treated mesmerically unless the patients reside in the mesmeric institution; and, as long as the general hospitals refuse the benefit of mesmerism to their inmates, the poor must suffer grievously from our pecuniary inability to meet the difficulty. But we feel a strong conviction that the day is not far distant when the public sympathy will enable us by increased funds to receive in-patients.

"Donors have presented to the Infirmary £899 : 8 : 0. We have 118 annual subscribers, who, with one lately de-

ceased, have contributed from the commencement £352 : 10 : 0, and the 118 contribute annually £197 : 19 : 0. We receive about £12 as the interest of five exchequer bills. We have £884 : 4 : 3½ in hand.

"Our chief expenses are for rent, rates, and taxes, nearly £100 : 0 : 0; and for salaries £218 : 0 : 0. Various other matters have cost about £20 : 0 : 0 during the last 12 months.

"We trust that some leasehold property promised us by Mr. Beaume will produce us about £50 per annum; and Mr. Capern has generously declared that as soon as we grant leases he will present us with 20 guineas.

"The world is becoming every day better informed as to the reality, the curative and assuaging power, and the innocence of mesmerism: and the English medical profession is now emancipating itself from the unfortunate feelings which overpowered it from the time, now above 12 years ago, when the college and hospital, their council and medical professors, within a few yards on one side of the spot where we are now assembled, scouted mesmerism with contumely, not enquiring for a moment whether it was useful or true, and forbade its presence within their walls: and when Mr. Wakley, within a few yards on the other side of the spot where we are now assembled, loudly declared to mankind that mesmerism was an entire fraud, and that all those who promoted it were cheats and impostors unworthy to be associated with by respectable medical men. We, therefore, trust that our donors and subscribers will steadily encrease, and our means prove sufficient for the holy cause in which we are engaged. The support hitherto given to us has been all but unsolicited. We have not had a sermon, a public dinner, a ball or a bazaar: nor do I know of more than one donor and one subscriber brought to us by solicitation. The matter has been one of extreme delicacy up to this time. But, as the truth and importance of mesmerism are now so extensively acknowledged, no one need longer to hesitate in advocating the cause of mesmeric charity before all men, in season and out of season. Persons apply every week for admission into the Infirmary for whom we have no room:—so much has the fame of mesmeric remedial power spread, and so quickly is that gross ignorance vanishing which connected the simple and natural process of mesmerising with Satan.

"We have received £141 : 0 : 0 in donations since the former general meeting: and had an increase of 32 annual subscribers, whose payments will amount to £65 : 19 : 0 annually. May the ensuing twelvemonth prove still more prosperous. The committee are anxious to propose to the

meeting what they believe will be a great improvement. A lady, the wife of a distinguished mathematician and philosopher, proposed to Dr. Elliotson that ladies should be upon the committee, and offered to join if other ladies would do the same. He at once highly approved of the plan, and mentioned it to the committee, who equally approve of it. Such a measure must be advantageous in many respects, as, in addition to our having female patients, we now employ a female mesmeriser.

"Mr. Holme, of Highgate, has kindly placed the whole of his phrenological collection in the hands of the institution, to be returned whenever we think fit, or his son, now very young may, after coming of age, may desire to have it. The strong alliance between mesmerism and phrenology caused the committee to regard the offer of a fine phrenological collection as too valuable to be slighted; and they have Mr. Holme to give occasional gratuitous discourses upon it after the mesmeric business of the day is over."

Mr. HOLLINGS, in moving the adoption of the report, could not refrain from adding his own expressions of deep and unfeigned satisfaction to those already pronounced by the Chairman, at the present condition of mesmerism in its character of a curative agent, as testified not only by the meeting, but by the growing convictions of the great body of the public at large. Fifteen years have now elapsed since experiments were first made upon an extensive scale, and under the direction of distinguished medical authority, in this country, for the purpose of testing the reality of the phenomena of animal magnetism, and the applicability of what is called the mesmeric state to the alleviation of various forms of suffering and disease. Of the spirit in which the results of such experiments were extensively, and perhaps not unnaturally, received, few among those who were present need be reminded. Nor would he (Mr. Hollings) attempt to infuse a single element of bitterness into the deliberations of the assembly, by adverting, in any but the most casual manner, to the unjust, the uncandid, and the most unphilosophical temper by which an opposition almost universal was at that time characterized. If this opposition, however disreputable, however unjustifiable in its manner, was the result of sincere and honest conviction, it is to a certain extent to be respected. If it arose from unreflecting and unenquiring prejudice, it is to be lamented. If it was prompted in any single instance by personal enmity, by professional rivalry, or by jealous self-interest, it is to be forgiven. Fifteen years however have elapsed—fifteen years of open and unremitting controversy—

during which, whatever other means of refutation may have been neglected, the motives, the objects, the judgment, and even the characters of the friends of mesmerism, will generally be acknowledged to have been in no single instance either respected or spared. But, after all the employment of counter-arguments upon this subject, or of a method of antagonism to which men are but too apt to have recourse where argument itself is wanting, what is the result? At the present moment there is scarcely an intelligent mind in Great Britain, which does not acknowledge that there is reality in at least what we may call the normal characteristics of the mesmeric sleep; in other words, that its ordinary and easily induced phenomena of coma, of cataleptic rigidity, of insensibility more or less complete to impressions from without, are true effects of a specific and independent, however mysterious, cause; although such conditions were formerly, almost without distinction, regarded either as mere hallucinations in the mind of the operator, or, so far as the patient was concerned, as instances of audacious and palpable fraud. In many quarters institutions are arising with the express view to the application of these conditions to medical purposes, and everywhere with the promise of extensive support. The names of men widely eminent in science and in literature, of the highest professional standing, of well-known authority in the church, in the senate, in the state, are being daily added to the already numerous list of the defenders and sustainers of this once contemned and vilified cause. We look to the neighbouring continent, and we find that the researches of one of the most original and philosophic minds of the age—he (Mr. Hollings) alluded to the recent experiments of the Baron Von Reichenbach—have succeeded in tracing, through the means of mesmerism, the existence, and in some measure the laws, of an entirely new material agency, upon the importance or the ultimate applications of which no man at the present time can venture to pronounce. Or we turn to that vast theatre of wealth, of promise, and of teeming humanity, presented by our Eastern dependencies; and what do we there behold? That which no one, who is not wholly insensible to the interests of his fellow beings, can regard without emotion, without gratitude, without delight. We see a flourishing and already celebrated public hospital, founded under the direct auspices of the British Government, and directed by medical skill and experience second to none in Europe, in which the power of the mesmeric state both as curative and anæsthetic is a matter of daily, nay, of almost hourly demonstration. We are told of the most agonizing and pro-

tracted operations,—the removal, for instance, of tumors, in some cases actually equalling in weight the bodies of the patients themselves,—repeatedly performed during a condition of absolute unconsciousness: and when the use of any other known method for the purpose of inducing insensibility would be but the substitution for physical endurance of almost certain death. We hear from the same quarter of the successful treatment, by similar means, of paralysis, of epilepsy, and of mania, as events of constant recurrence. And these truths are being openly taught by eminent professors, and under the sanction of the Council of Education of India, in the great medical school of Calcutta, to crowds of students, gathered from all climes and quarters of the gorgeous East. Yet a little while, and every district of that ancient cradle of art and civilization, to which both are now returning with more benignant promise, and in the strength of a maturer life—from the stony crest of the Himalayahs to the forests of Ava—shall rejoice in these trophies of curative or of palliative skill; trophies than which, with the exception of the still greater blessings of equal legislation and of the pure religion of charity and love, none more glorious have been reared within those often disputed confines, from the time at which the phalanxes of Alexander turned back from the waters of the Indus, to the day when the banks of that famous river were crowded by those victorious warriors of the stormy North, whose banners were emblazoned with the reminiscences of fields contested in a distant hemisphere against ensigns more dreaded than those of the Macedonian, and whose arms were nerved to conquest by the recollections of Arcot, of Plassy, and of Assaye. Now if such have been the effects of but fifteen years of experiment, what, it may be reasonably asked, may not be expected from an equal space of years yet to come? For the progress of every great discovery is, as all are aware, in anything but the constant ratio of its initial force. Long and arduous and painful are its first advances towards even partial recognition and acceptance; but this barrier once surmounted, there is no scale or series known to the mathematician which can measure the strength of its expansiveness, or the rapidity of its diffusion. Let us not however be misunderstood. In the conduct of this Institution we do not proceed, we have not hitherto proceeded, upon the supposition, that in mesmerism is contained an absolute and infallible specific for all shapes and conditions of disease. There may be temperaments over which it will be found to have but a limited influence. There may be, there probably are, some forms of malady, which it will prove incompetent

materially to affect. How far, under what circumstances, with what limitations and restrictions it is best applicable, must be learned, as everything else in therapeutics has hitherto been learned, from the teaching of experiment alone. We do not even attempt to pronounce upon the nature of the cause to which this most remarkable state is owing. Nor do we deem it our province to investigate those higher and mysterious phenomena of magnetic somnambulism, which afford so extensive and so deeply interesting a field for the labours of the psychologist. We are not claiming for mesmerism any higher place than that of a most powerful and most valuable subsidiary to the known resources of the medical art; far less do we wish to see it separated from the judgment and superintendence of those whose professional studies may be presumed best to qualify them to determine upon the expediency of its employment. What however we do affirm—not a few among us upon the testimony of our own senses again and again repeated; many upon the strength of evidence which appears wholly incontrovertible—is this, that for the most acute and depressing suffering the agency which we are advocating has often proved the only available palliative: that under the most trying conditions of terror and anguish to which human fortitude can be submitted, it has been found a refuge as safe as it is welcome and effective: and that directed against not a few of that most melancholy class of disorders, upon which the utmost skill of the physician is vainly exhausted, it has issued in an unquestionable and permanent cure. How multitudinous and how various are the latter sources of human misery, can be known to that Being alone, by whom, doubtless for wise although inscrutable purposes, they are permitted to exist. Such conditions of evil are not indeed of a character to attract either public or general notice. They do not meet us in the midst of our crowded streets and thoroughfares: they do not come forth to court attention beneath the open blaze of day. But if, amidst the splendour and the tumult, the flow of busy life, the rush of joyous and exuberant existence, which the external aspect of this vast metropolis at the present moment exhibits, the curtain which conceals its darker features from our observation were suddenly withdrawn; if, like the common father of mankind, in the gloomy but immortal description of Milton, we could behold but a portion of those cases of physical debility and protracted torture, over which medical science,—saying nothing against its undoubted triumphs—nothing against its manifold and improving appliances—nothing against the noble and disinterested spirit by which multitudes

of its professors are actuated,—but over which this great science mourns hopelessly and in vain; who is there among us who would not stand aghast at the spectacle thus afforded?

“Sight so deform, what heart of stone could long
Tearless behold?”

Who would not welcome, who would not readily avail himself of any means, however vague, however novel, however empirical, which held out even the most distant promise of the relief of ills so terrible and extensive? He (Mr. Hollings) could distinctly and deliberately assert that he had seen such cases; their undeniable severity—their as undeniable relief. He had seen the most acute neuralgic anguish—not of days, but of months’ continuance, and for which all that practised skill could suggest had been suggested to little purpose—allayed in a few minutes and almost as if by magic, by the simplest mesmeric treatment. He had seen disease, pronounced by competent medical authority to be organic, and by inference incurable, and for which the dissolution of the patient seemed to offer the only probable means of release, succeeded, after the same mode of treatment had been for not very many days adopted, by a condition of active and vigorous health. But these are not insulated cases. The experience of the Chairman, and the experience of many who were present, could appeal to others quite as remarkable. They are paralleled, they are even far exceeded, by the records of this or of kindred institutions, and by hundreds of similar instances, established on the authority of the most unexceptionable witnesses both at home and abroad. Surely then we have at least a fair case for a candid and impartial hearing; a case which may challenge the most patient enquiry and justify the fullest and the most extensive experiment. Surely we are well warranted in addressing the most zealous and the most obstinate among our opponents in some such terms as these. Our statements are at least sufficiently numerous, our authority eminent, our objects of unspeakable importance to the general interest, if likely to prove attainable; still more so, if in any degree already attained. Examine for yourselves. The field of enquiry is easily accessible. The method of experiment from which we have drawn our conclusions is open to all. But do not in this day of enlightenment run counter to all those principles of inductive research upon which every science, and most especially the science of therapeutics, is based, by falling back upon assumed theories, while we appeal to absolute facts. Investigate strictly, sternly, severely, with every bias towards suspicion and distrust, and, if it must be so, with an utter disregard to the forms of that conventional

courtesy which should at all times distinguish the controversies of liberal and enlightened men; but at least do not prejudge. Denounce—but first enquire. Strike if you will—but hear.—At the moment in which we are commemorating at least the partial triumph—at least the greatly improved prospects of a remedial means which we firmly and most sincerely believe to be second in value and efficacy to none adopted from the earliest periods of history by the professors of the healing art—it would ill become us to forget to whose instrumentality the progress of this most beneficial agency in the public estimation is principally owing. It cannot be denied, that for the present aspect of mesmerism both in this country and in the East, we are mainly indebted to the singular talents, to the persevering, the uninterrupted, and the benevolent efforts of one individual, who was foremost among us in asserting its claims to support, and who for many years continued almost single-handed to demonstrate its benefits, with a constancy, displayed amidst multiplied difficulties and discouragements, which may well be compared with most of the best known and the noblest instances of devotion to truth and principle under the most trying forms of personal sacrifice. On the many claims possessed by Dr. Elliotson to the general gratitude, it was not necessary in that gentleman's presence to enlarge. Much moreover of what might be said in relation to his disinterested labours in the cause of humanity would probably be embodied in a resolution, which it was intended to submit to the meeting at a future stage of its proceedings. Thus much however he (Mr. Hollings) might say, that in any mark of esteem and respect which either upon that or upon future occasions may be offered as an acknowledgment of his invaluable services, all who are acquainted with his personal character, or who have in any degree learned justly to appreciate the uniform tenor of his professional career, must consider it equally a pleasure and a privilege to concur. And this, not only from feelings of individual respect, but upon general considerations of the highest moment. Heroism and devotion of one description alone have hitherto almost exclusively engrossed the praises and the honours of mankind. On all sides we saw monuments reared to commemorate the triumphs of physical powers, lasting oblations to that martial daring, that contempt of personal peril or of imminent death, for which nations have as yet principally reserved their titles, their statues, and their distinctions, their acclamations, and their wreaths. At the same time, it has too frequently been forgotten that there is a courage yet more honourable, far rarer, and with much more difficulty sustain-

able than this. It is that moral heroism, which neither scorn, nor obloquy, nor diminishing estimation, nor waning repute, nor the chilled affection of former friends and associates, nor, yet more formidable than all of these, "the world's dread laugh," can turn back from that which promises to issue in the lessened suffering or the enlarged happiness of mankind; even though the attainment of such an object may appear but as a dim possibility in the far distant future; even though the perfect development of its consequences and the full appreciation of its importance seem only likely to occur when the hands which have laboured the most zealously for its furtherance shall long have been mingled with the dust. But this heroism, too, shall one day have its trophies: and, side by side with the great masters and swayers of the sword, the armed protectors or oppressors of their respective ages, shall be seen the names of those whose labours in more peaceful fields have had for their ends the mental or the moral elevation of their fellows, the alleviation of human misery, the diffusion among unborn generations of better, less imperilled, or more tolerable conditions of life. In that day, and among the long list of names thus honoured, which the history of our own land will supply, far from the least distinguished, will be that of the eminent physiologist, the accomplished physician, and the generous philanthropist, who was the first to make known, and the most strenuous to establish among his countrymen, the healing tendencies of a state, imitative of nature's best restorative, and no less potent than this for the renewal of impaired vigour, or the alleviation of the racking sense of pain; a state by which, as proved by the grateful experience of multitudes, functional disorders of the worst and most obstinate character have been repeatedly arrested; the progress of those maladies, through which the mind of man sinks slowly but surely amidst the ruins of his shattered intellect, suspended; and those seasons of agonizing endurance, which the judgment of the surgeon is compelled to appoint as the only means of preventing yet severer evils, passed either as an utter pause in consciousness, or, at worst, as but a troubled and a feverish dream.

The Hon. Capt. SCARLETT, in seconding the resolution, said, that after the speech they had just heard it was quite needless for him to detain them by any further remarks. He would, however, call their attention to one point, and that was the great economy practised in that institution, and the great zeal and ability, as well as gratuitous attention, of the medical officers. He had great pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. JANSON (of Exeter) moved that the Archbishop of Dublin and Earl Stanhope be requested to become vice-presidents of the Institution. The hon. speaker briefly alluded to the immense progress that the science of mesmerism had made in Exeter, and said he appeared on the present occasion as representative of that city.*

Mr. PARKER (of Exeter), said he had much satisfaction and pleasure in seconding the resolution which Mr. Janson had proposed. Being entirely a stranger to the audience, with two exceptions only, he had to claim their indulgence, as he should feel quite inadequate to the task of addressing them had he not to advocate the cause of truth. He came there to-day not to boast of what he had done in the cause of mesmerism; but he came to render an account of his labours as an act of homage to Dr. Elliotson, their leader and general, "whose deeds of heroism have not been celebrated at the cannon-mouth nor bathed in the tears of the widow." Although he held no public appointment, he had enjoyed the rare privilege of being assisted by Mr. Janson,—that noble specimen of the human race on his left hand. When he told them that he had performed upwards of twenty of the most painful operations on the eye whilst the patients were under his (Mr. Janson's) mesmeric influence, they need only look at

* Dr. Elliotson made the request in virtue of this resolution, and the following are the answers of the two noblemen:—

"Merton Lodge, Slough,

"30th May, 1851.

"My dear Sir,

"I shall be happy to accept the office of Vice-President of the Mesmeric Infirmary.

"The practice is so dangerous in bad or careless hands that it is most important it should be patronized and efficiently superintended by the trustworthy.

"To hold back from it because there are dangers attending it, is to leave it in the worst hands.

"I trust the Institution will, eventually, accomplish much more than the immediate relief of the patients who apply to it.

"There are two other most important results which I think it may be the means of bringing about: (1) the training of some well-qualified persons as professional mesmerizers; of which there is a great want: (2) the discovering of some valuable medical clairvoyants.

"Believe me, dear Sir, yours very truly,

"R. DUBLIN."

"Chevening,

"May 28th, 1851.

"Dear Dr. Elliotson,

"I beg to assure you that I gladly and gratefully accept the distinguished honour which is proposed to me of becoming a Vice-President of the Mesmeric Infirmary, and that no person can feel more interested than myself in the prosperity of that most admirable Institution, or can be more deeply impressed with the conviction of its inestimable importance.

"Very faithfully yours,

"STANHOPE."

him to recognize his very large organ of Benevolence. There is another friend to mesmerism whose presence here to-day he (Mr. Parker) could have wished, and as Mr. Janson fancies there is a kind of free-masonry between mesmerisers, he (Mr. Parker) had the privilege of calling Mr. Luxmoore a brother mason as well as a brother mesmeriser, whose noble deeds he need only mention. He (Mr. Luxmoore) has mesmerised a patient under his (Mr. Parker's) care for *five years and a half, from three, six, nine, and even thirteen hours a day*, with few intermissions. The sufferings of this patient had been so severe that he had been obliged to bleed her eight hundred times in the course of nineteen years as the only palliative remedy, and she is now quite restored to health by mesmerism. Whatever objections the fastidious may find in public exhibitions of mesmerism, he begged to offer them some compensation in the following results. Having had mesmeric *séances* at his own house for several years past, (twice, three times, and often four times a week,) at which from 30 to 70 persons had been gratuitously admitted, he and his mesmerisers had produced some of the phenomena of mesmerism on nearly 1,200 persons out of a population of 35,000 inhabitants. In conducting these investigations he had had two objects in view; the first, to examine the variety of phenomena; the second, to provide patients for operations. During the last eight months he had extracted upwards of *thirty teeth* whilst the patients were in the mesmeric sleep and unconscious of pain. From *ten to seventy* persons had been present at almost every operation. Multitudes had had their toothache cured, without extraction, and various other pains removed at his *séances*. Irregularities of the female system had been relieved in *hundreds* of cases. He would trespass on the audience to mention one case in particular, illustrating the glorious triumph of mesmerism, that of a young gentleman, 16 years of age, whose father is at present and has been for four years in an asylum; his grandmother died deranged. This young gentleman was at school, in May, 1850, at a country town, 10 miles from Exeter, and being, very zealous to win a prize, studied so hard as to become deranged. The medical attendant of the father considered the son's case, after fourteen days' treatment, hopeless. Whilst in this state the patient had torn every nail off his hands from their roots; and being in this miserable and hopeless state, the mother flew as the last resource to mesmerism. Her only child had passed the whole of the fourteenth night in violent delirium. As soon as he (Mr. Parker) and his mesmeriser reached the country town, his mesmeriser

soon induced mesmeric sleep, and they had the opportunity of bringing him (the patient) the whole way to Exeter in a quiet state, in an omnibus; and after eleven days' perseverance, they had the gratification of restoring his intellect, and in the course of a few weeks he was quite restored to health and has remained well ever since. In answer to an observation from Mr. Hollings he begged to offer the result of his experience. He had found a relay of mesmerisers succeed in relieving the most desperate and forlorn cases, and the last moments of many of his patients had been soothed by mesmerism: *in fact, the last words* that some of his patients had uttered, had been to thank Mr. Parker for having administered the comfort of mesmerism in their dying moments. He could not expect the audience to sympathize with him for the base calumny he had received. He dared not trust himself to describe it. The conduct of persons who would wish to be thought to be guided by the genial spirit of Christianity had even surpassed the iniquitous bigotry of the Inquisition, and more resembled the remorseless cannibal. What had been said there to-day he wished to be recorded by his children's children, as the truth of mesmerism must prevail. It might meet with obstacles; it could never be defeated. It put all other doctrines into the shade. It was, in fact, that great electric light that would conduct the human race to the intellectual oasis before them. Mr. Wakley, in his *Lancet*, once compared him to a Phoenix: but he (Mr. Parker) knew that he had not been burnt and revived from his ashes, but had lived twenty years in his house without its having yet been on fire.

The motion was then carried.

It was then moved by Mr. ROBERTSON, and seconded by Mr. BRIGGS, that ladies be added to the committee during the ensuing year.

This was also unanimously agreed to.

Dr. Elliotson was then re-elected Treasurer.

Dr. SYMES next proposed that the following address be presented to Dr. Elliotson:—

"That the sincere congratulations of this meeting are due and are hereby tendered to John Elliotson, M.D., F.R.S., upon the satisfactory advancement of this institution and of a form of medical treatment, the establishment of which, in Great Britain, is due principally to his disinterested, persevering, and most efficient advocacy. Many years have now elapsed since the reality of the phenomena of mesmerism and its applicability to the treatment of some of the most formidable and obstinate diseases, acute and chronic, were de-

monstrated by experiments conducted by him, and published under the high sanction of his authority as a public professor of medicine and a distinguished teacher of physiology and of therapeutics. How these great truths were received by the medical profession at large, is only too generally known. The pertinacious opposition of an unenquiring scepticism to facts as satisfactorily established and as easily demonstrable as any within the range of experiment and research; and the extent to which base detraction, open invective, and secret obloquy have been systematically substituted for argument and enquiry, are no less matters of general notoriety. The period of prejudice, of incredulity, and intemperate reproach in regard to mesmerism as a curative agent, is at length, however, hastening to its close. Hundreds of cases successfully treated have established incontestably the efficacy of this simple but powerful means for the alleviation and cure of disease. The experiments of enquiring minds here and abroad have succeeded in evolving from mesmeric phenomena truths both physical and physiological, hitherto unsuspected, but which further investigations promise speedily to connect by the bond of common relations with a new and universal law. In this Institution, and in the Mesmeric Infirmary at Bristol and Exeter, and in the Mesmeric Hospital at Calcutta, to the last of which the direct countenance and support of Government have been extended, the employment of mesmerism has been attended with advantages which the most sanguine of its advocates could hardly have dared to anticipate. In all these Institutions the severest and most inveterate maladies have been arrested and cured, the dumb have been made to speak, the deaf to hear, the blind to see, and the lame to walk; the sick, the insane, the wretched and despairing have been restored to comfort and health; and while not a few operations have been conducted to a successful termination under its soothing influence in this country, in the Calcutta hospital more particularly hundreds have been subjected in a state of perfect unconsciousness and tranquillity to capital operations of the gravest kind, in not one of which has the employment of *this* anæsthetic been attended with other than beneficial results; results only less marvellous than the pertinacity with which they have been excluded from all the medical journals which ought to have been the first to welcome and promulgate them. With our congratulations to Dr. Elliotson we will not mingle one word of regret for the labours he has expended, the sacrifices he has made, the persecution he has endured in the warfare against prejudice, indifference and injustice; these are the gains and form the

common lot of those who are in advance of the age in which they live ; and we feel assured that the magnificent results to which we have referred, effected through the agency of the cause for which he has suffered, and its progress and triumph, must to his large and cultivated mind be more than a compensation for all he has undergone."

Dr. ASHBURNER, in seconding the proposition, said, that it gave him great pleasure to second the motion. The address which had just been read he considered a graceful and well-merited compliment to the extraordinary man they all agreed to regard as the indomitable champion of the holy truth of mesmerism. They had heard from Mr. Parker that Dr. Elliotson was their leader and their general. He has well fought the battle in which he has been engaged ; and, besieged by base enemies, he has thrown missiles into their camps more striking than injurious shells. He has projected the astonishing cure of a case of cancer, which will do more damage to their hostile forces of pride, slander and malice, than a thousand shrapnells. Dr. Elliotson was their general. Let them rather give him a higher function, that of teacher ; the highest in which a human being can be engaged ; and they could not pay him a better homage than to bear witness to his zeal and energy in the investigation of a science on which his genius and acumen have been the means of shedding so much light. He (Dr. Ashburner) was quite unprepared to address the meeting, but could not allow the occasion to pass without adding his little tribute of cordial respect for the man whom he was sure they would unanimously address in the terms so well conceived in the paper Dr. Symes had presented to them.

Mr. ALEX. J. ELLIS (of Bristol) in supporting the motion, remarked upon the silence of preceding speakers with respect to one eminent quality in Dr. Elliotson, which was comparatively rare, but was of the utmost importance to investigators, and especially to mesmeric investigators. To these Dr. Elliotson was in this respect not merely a teacher, but a model ; he did not merely shew them the path, but he pursued it himself. It happened curiously enough that it was this very quality for which he received the least credit from the world in general ; or rather, he was given credit for a precisely opposite quality, and it was therefore due to him that the truth should be publicly spoken. Dr. Elliotson is a remarkably *slow believer*. So far from being the mere theorist which his detractors assume him to be, he is a patient investigator, who will not allow himself to be led away by appearances, and who never asserts a fact on his own authority till

he has thoroughly and carefully established it for himself. He (Mr. Ellis) could speak from long personal acquaintance, and from a knowledge of his writings. It was of the utmost importance that this course should be pursued by mesmerisers generally. A theory may be combatted by arguments: a fact established on the evidence of a careful experimenter is incontrovertible. The science of mesmerism is still in the stage of collecting facts: the theory will follow in time. But we must know the *what*, before we can pretend to tell the *how*. It is a blessing which mesmerisers enjoy above all other investigators, that while they are, scientifically speaking, merely discovering facts and processes in nature,—merely instituting experiments for their own private satisfaction, they are practically doing an immense amount of good to their fellow men, and gratifying the most disinterested benevolence at every stage of their enquiry. Mesmerism is the worthy pursuit of the acutest philosopher and the warmest philanthropist.

The address was unanimously agreed to, and presented to Dr. Elliotson amidst marks of the greatest approbation.

Dr. ELLIOTSON returned thanks; and, a vote of thanks having been given to the chairman, the meeting separated.

The *Jury Magnétique d'Encouragement et de Récompense*, of Paris, has just voted and transmitted silver medals to Baron von Reichenbach and Dr. Elliotson. The following is the letter which was written to the latter gentleman:—

“ Paris, 30 Mai, 1851.

“ Monsieur,—J’ai l’honneur de vous annoncer que dans sa séance du 22 courant, le Jury Magnétique vous a décerné une Médaille d’Argent à titre de récompense, pour le concours puissant que vous avez prêté à la cause mesmerienne.

“ Le Jury, juste appréciateur de vos beaux travaux et de votre persévérance, est persuadé que le témoignage qu’il vous offre de sa vive sympathie, sera une petite compensation aux peines qui vous sont venues en défendant la noble cause de la science, de la justice et de la vérité.

“ Veuillez croire, Monsieur, que je suis heureux d’être, dans cette circonstance, l’interprète du Jury, et agréer l’expression des sentimens de haute estime et de parfait dévouement

“ De votre serviteur et collègue,

“ Le Ch^{re}. M^r SHEEHY,

“ Sec. G^{ral}. du Jury.

"P.S. M. Shaw, votre compatriote, et notre ami, a bien voulu se charger de vous remettre cette lettre avec la médaille qui vous est destinée; et aussi, un exemplaire des statuts du Jury.

"Vous recevrez, par la poste, le compte rendu imprimé de la séance précitée où se trouvent exposés les motifs de la décision qui vous concerne."

The medal is by Lassagne. It presents an exquisitely finished head of Mesmer; and on the reverse is inscribed—

Le Jury Magnétique

D'Encouragement

Et De Récompense.

(Institué à Paris, le 25 Mai 1847)

A Mr. John Elliotson.

Around are these words—

La Nature Offre Un Moyen Universel De Guérir Et De
Préserver Les Hommes.

III. *Cure of Blindness, Dumbness, and Palsy of the Lower Limbs.* By a Clergyman of the Church of England.
Communicated by Dr. Elliotson.

"But for divines, Mesmerism, Homœopathy, and such like lying spirits, would have been long since laid in the bottomless pit of oblivion."—Dr. BUSHNAN, *Medical Times*, May 31, 1851, p. 606.

DEAR Dr. Elliotson,—Should you think the enclosed case of the cure of a child, of 11 years of age, by mesmerism, adapted for forwarding to *The Zoist*, it is very much at your service.

The child in question had scarlatina last year, followed by severe influenza; and after a few months her sight failed, her speech became inarticulate, and her lower extremities powerless. As she had been under the care of a skilful medical man for some little time without any apparent benefit, I undertook, with his concurrence, to apply mesmerism; and commenced for that purpose on the 28th of November. The sight was then so much impaired that she could not see the largest capital letters, and placed her eyes close to the book like a very near-sighted person. Her speech, also, was so affected that she could not articulate a single word of any kind.

I made passes over her eyes and throat for a quarter of an hour, and then left her to sleep. She slept from half an hour to an hour every day, and after a few days began to see and speak better. By the 1st of January she had quite recovered

both her sight and speech. Toward the end of December her lower extremities became useless, and she could not stand for a moment, but, if placed upon her feet, she fell down without the power of rising. Being absent from home, I could not resume the mesmeric treatment until the 21st of January, when, at your kind suggestion, I put her to sleep *and made strong passes down the spine*. This was continued until the end of February, almost daily; and during the process she gradually recovered her strength and entire use of her limbs. On the first of March she was quite restored, and walked on that day, without fatigue, about three miles.

Our medical friend, whose practice and experience are of the most respectable and extensive nature, has kindly allowed me to enclose his account of the case to you.

I will only add, that the child continues perfectly well; and I saw her yesterday weeding my daughter's flower beds, and delighted in the occupation.

From, dear Dr. E.,

Very faithfully yours,
T. B.

Kingstone, Canterbury,
May 24th.

"Charlotte Brooks applied for relief with an affection of the optic nerves causing blindness, and also the nerves supplying the muscles of deglutition and the tongue were so much affected as to interfere with swallowing, and the speech so much so as to render it impossible to understand her utterance. Counter-irritation and attention to the general health were attempted to procure relief, but without any effect; and she then was subjected to mesmerism. I have seen the above case since the mesmeric treatment was adopted, and the sight and articulation are perfectly restored. But she had also lost the use of the lower extremities, in addition to the impaired functions before mentioned; and she appears this day perfectly well in every respect.

"EDWARD LONG, Surgeon.

"March 21st, 1851."

IV. *Cure of Uterine Inflammation or Neuralgia.* Communicated by Dr. Elliotson.

"The sober and legitimate conclusion of a few thousand years of experience are not sufficiently piquant for their taste (the mushroom portion of the aristocracy). PRIESSNITZ, the Silesian boor, HAHNEMANN, the German knave, or MESMER, the French mountebank, with their disciples, are more to their meretricious tastes than the patient followers of physiology and pathology."

"We must continue to urge professional men who have a just appreciation of the noble art to which their lives are devoted, to keep a strict watch on the public career of all consultants who dabble with mesmerists, homœopaths, and hydropaths."—Mr. WAKLEY, *Lancet*, May 3, 1851. pp. 499, 500.

Mrs. C. S.—, aged 40, married 10 years. Three months after marriage I miscarried by over walking. I was ordered by an eminent physician to be kept in the recumbent position to arrest the hæmorrhage: but in vain. My family considering the case dangerous, a second equally experienced physician was consulted, who immediately ordered half grain doses of oxide of silver, which, after the second dose, had the desired effect, the hæmorrhage becoming less every day, the severe and racking pains leaving me; and all that appeared requisite to perfect my cure and strengthen me was change of air. Brighton was chosen; but bathing strictly forbidden. After remaining there three months, and finding myself so wonderfully improved, I returned home: but, to my dismay, found my constitution had from this severe illness received much injury, for walking or standing immediately caused me great pain; and, after a few months, I found myself suffering much at the neck of the uterus from inflammation. I was compelled again to call in medical attendance. I changed my doctor as I had not derived permanent benefit, my sufferings being alleviated for a short time only, although I had followed up all directions to the very letter: but in vain. I was induced to try homœopathic treatment: but all to no effect. Having read from a work called *The Zoist* of so many wonderful cures being performed by mesmerism, I was induced after so many years of suffering and unsuccessful treatment to try it, although, I admit, very despairing and incredulous. But, to my great surprise, I found myself in one month after being mesmerised three times a week, quite free from any pain; and in six weeks perfectly cured, without coma having been produced. The passes were made over the part affected: mesmerised water was drunk, and no medicine taken. It is now eight months since my wonderful cure was effected. I have had no return of pain; my health, spirits, and appetite remain good. I consider it my duty to those who may be suffering from the same cause as mine—inflammation at the neck of the uterus—to give my case publicity.

C. S. March 26th, 1851.

. I am at liberty to give the name and address to any person who wishes to know them.

From trying circumstances some pain lately returned: but was soon completely removed by mesmerism.

J. ELLIOTSON.

V. *Benefit of Mesmerism in a severe Fracture of the Leg.* By
Mr. KINGDOM. Communicated by Dr. Elliotson.

"His immortal *Treatise on the Circulation of the Blood* cost him twenty-six years to bring to maturity. His discovery was ill-received.

"The epithet *circulator*, in its Latin invidious signification (*quack*), was applied to him by many in derision, and his researches and discoveries were treated by his adversaries with contempt and reproach. To an intimate friend he himself complained, that after his book came out, he fell considerably in his practice; and it was believed by the vulgar that he was crack-brained; all the contemporary physicians were against his opinion, and envied him the fame he was likely to acquire. That reputation he did at last enjoy: about twenty-five years after the publication of his system, it was received in all the universities of the world."

"The courtier behind is one of that class of gentlemen who, in reference to the advancement of social and philosophical conditions, 'cares for none of these things;' he is permitting himself to be entertained by some of Harvey's opponents. These are incarnations of pedantic bigotry and stolid imbecility—the two great opponents of scientific progress—who, by insult and obloquy, show their hatred of him who dares, by asserting truth, unsettle their long cherished absurdities."—Mr. WAKLEY, *Lancet*, April 5, 1851, p. 383. Account of an Engraving of Harvey shewing the Circulation to Charles I.

Reform Club, Pall Mall, 25th April, 1851.

My dear Sir,—Absence from England the greater portion of the last three years having prevented my seeing more than an occasional number of *The Zoist*, some similar case to the following may have already appeared in that excellent periodical. I place it, however, at your disposal.

I should premise that in 1841, whilst on a visit in Buckinghamshire, I fractured the bones of my right leg, just above the ankle; the fracture, however, was reduced without much pain, although the surgeon did not arrive for several hours. With the exception, indeed, of the first two or three nights, when it was necessary to apply cold lotions, I suffered but little at any time. Notwithstanding these favourable symptoms, I was not permitted to leave my bed for the sofa until the middle of the sixth week, nor to be removed in an easy carriage to my own residence until the end of the ninth week. Even these periods, I believe, are considered rather early for one of my age, which—as the truth must be told—was at that time, fifty.

On the 10th January of the present year, 1851, whilst crossing the upper part of Regent Street, I was knocked down by a cab, the wheel passing over and crushing the bones of my right leg, just at the former fracture. After being assisted into another cab, I drove to the chambers of a friend near Pall Mall, who kindly placed his rooms and servants at my disposal. Mr. Patterson of Piccadilly was soon in attendance; but this gentleman, finding the leg very much swollen,

the flesh and muscles seriously injured, and the bones broken into numerous pieces all but protruding through the skin, considered it necessary to have the additional aid and advice of Mr. Fergusson of King's College, on whose arrival the fracture was skilfully reduced, though not, as may be supposed, without considerable pain. I was then left for the night, under care of a nurse, with sundry bottles of lotion, fever draughts, &c., in the expectation, no doubt, from the severity of the accident, that pain and fever would ensue; but I experienced neither one nor the other during the whole of my illness, or rather confinement,—not even any disturbance of my sleep by those twitchings of the muscles, or dreams of falling over precipices, so common after such accidents. The lotions and fever draughts were untouched to the last, and the only cork drawn was from a bottle of old sherry.

With the natural anxiety of an unfortunate bachelor to ascertain whether his future polkas were to be danced with a straight or crooked leg, I had the splints removed on the tenth day in the presence of both surgeons; the inspection proving so satisfactory that Mr. Patterson a few days afterwards consented to order a pair of crutches, although more perhaps to humour me than from any idea of my being able to use them so early as I anticipated. On the 21st day, however, I quitted my bed for the sofa in the adjoining room; on Sunday, the 16th February—the accident having occurred on the 10th January only—I removed into the country; and on the 19th March exchanged my crutches for a simple walking stick.

For this rapid* recovery and perfect freedom from all pain and fever I am indebted to mesmerism; certainly not to "rhubarb, senna, or purgative drugs," for none were administered. I was told, it is true, that I possessed a good constitution and a good temper—powerful auxiliaries, no doubt—without reckoning my conscience; but, as they existed in 1841, my recovery should have been as rapid then as in 1851, with a much severer fracture and the not very trifling addition of ten years to my age.

My mesmeriser was the female servant at my friend's chambers—an active, intelligent woman of thirty-five. She had never heard of mesmerism: but, under my directions, made slow passes from the knee to the foot of the injured leg, for half an hour, on the night of the accident, and afterwards four times a day from ten to fifteen minutes each, until my departure on the 16th February.

* When Mr. ———, of St. George's Hospital, heard of my leaving my bed on the 21st day, he declared that I ought to have been put into a straight jacket.

As the mesmeric passes were entirely local—no attempt being made to induce coma,—so simple a remedy might surely be applied with great facility in almost every case of accident: and its exclusion from our public hospitals reflects but little credit on those who have the management of them, unless, indeed, they think with Dr. Copland* that pain is necessary to effect a cure, which it certainly was not in my case, the very absence of it being held as the principal cause of my rapid recovery. In addition, however, to relief from pain—no slight boon to the sufferer, can there be any longer a doubt as to the existence of a positive curative power in mesmerism? It may be urged that nature, in accomplishing the union of a fractured bone, works by a slow and particular process: so she does in the growth of trees and plants, and, as the process may, in one case, be accelerated by the application of manures or other stimulants, why deny the possibility in the other of a similar effect from mesmerism?

In justice to Mr. Patterson, I should state that in discussing the subject he admitted that he could not shut his eyes to facts. Mr. Fergusson, on the contrary, treated it with ridicule, which he will doubtless ere long regret.

I am glad to find the Mesmeric Infirmary is opened, and, although unable to render it the assistance I had reason to hope at the meeting at Lord Ducie's in 1846, I have great pleasure in forwarding a check for £10:10s.; and with every wish for its success,

Believe me, my dear Sir, yours ever sincerely,
To Dr. Elliotson, F.R.S., &c. &c. WILLIAM KINGDOM.

I enclose the statement of Mr. Patterson, the surgeon who had the chief charge of the case:—

"Piccadilly, Jan. 30, 1851.

"On the 10th January I was called to a gentleman, 60 years of age, lying at 28, Regent Street, who had been knocked down by a cab, the wheel having passed over his leg or the horse having trod upon it. On removing the trowsers, drawers, and socks, I found both bones of the leg, the tibia and fibula, broken, just above the ankle-joint, and very badly broken in pieces; it was what is commonly called a comminuted fracture, and all but a compound fracture, a great deal of injury and violence having been done to the soft parts: the whole of the leg was very much discoloured by the effusion of blood, &c., and much swollen. Finding the limb so badly fractured, &c., and so much displacement, I suggested the

* See Dr. Elliotson's pamphlet, entitled, *Numerous Cases of Surgical Operations without pain*, p. 59.

propriety and necessity of some efficient help in setting it. I do not recollect so bad a case doing so well, although many similar cases came under my notice when I was with Sir Astley Cooper and since that time.

"J. D. PATTERSON, M.R.C.S."

. We hope there is some mistake in Mr. Kingdom's view of Mr. Fergusson's conduct. We hear, indeed, that Mr. Fergusson has Mr. Wakley to dine with him, and has carefully shewn himself shy of better and wiser men who are honest and courageous enough to declare the truth of mesmerism on all occasions. But allowance must be made for Mr. Fergusson. He may not feel a giant's strength in either intellect or moral dignity. He has come from the north to the south to make his fortune, and a predisposition to the prudent habits of Scotland have no doubt been transmitted into his brain from his father, grandfather, and his great grandfather, and his training from childhood was "wisdom in his generation," before he left Edinburgh.

Mr. Liston was attacked by Mr. Wakley as a cruel wretch for ignorantly doubting the reality of spontaneous anaesthesia in a case of catalepsy which occurred in the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

"The *Lancet* for May 22, 1830, gives a report of a clinical lecture, delivered in the University of Edinburgh, by Dr. Duncan, upon the case of a young woman who had for a short time been subject to seizures of perfect insensibility and catalepsy; 'her limbs, on the application of force, yielded' no more readily, however, than lead would, 'in whatever direction they were bent; and, when the force was withdrawn, remaining motionless and without tremor, like bars of lead, in whatever position they were placed, no matter how painful under ordinary circumstances, or how contrary to the ordinary laws of gravitation.' The poor creature's case was perfectly real; but, because some were so ignorant of medical science as to be unacquainted with the features of such an affection, she was suspected of imposition.

"The following is Mr. Wakley's report of Dr. Duncan's account of the experiment: 'We cannot avoid noticing, and we do so with feelings of the most unmixed disgust, an unmanly, wanton, and barbarous experiment, practised on this unfortunate patient by an individual, unconnected, we are happy to add, with the department of clinical *medicine*' (as distinguished from clinical *surgery*). 'It will scarcely be credited, but nevertheless it is strictly true, that during a paroxysm of insensibility, the person to whom we allude, *tore with his nails two separate pieces of skin from the hand of the patient*. She was not aware of the cruel and unwarrantable experiment at the time, but she felt the effects in the intervals very acutely. It is satisfactory, however, to know that but one feeling

of the most unequivocal reprobation pervaded teachers and pupils at this inhuman and unprofessional act.' Dr. Duncan hints only that it was a surgeon. Mr. Wakley declares the surgeon was Mr. Liston; for, in the index is this reference to the two pages in which the experiment is related:—

“‘LISTON, Mr., inhuman experiment by, pp. 278, 281.’

“Yet it is impossible not to think the statement erroneous, because Mr. Wakley and Mr. Liston are now inseparable friends, and Mr. Wakley has placed his son under Mr. Liston. There, however, stands the accusation in the index to *Lancet*, May 22, 1830, p. 278, vol. 18.”*

Afterwards, when Mr. Liston was invited by University College, London, to join it, Mr. Wakley wrote against the appointment of a man of blood, that is, a man fond of operating and distinguished for nothing but operating—the carpentry of the medical profession—to that institution.

Mr. Liston, who, though a great blusterer and accustomed to all sorts of asperity and coarseness behind a man's back, was an arrant coward and ready to truckle to those he hated when he felt cringing prudent, obtained after all this an introduction to Mr. Wakley, by means of Mr. M'Christie, now the city revising barrister, but at that time Mr. Wakley's chief reporter, whom he met accidentally in the steam-boat which brought him to London. Mr. Liston† then became the bosom friend of Mr. Wakley, and, burning with envy of Dr. Elliotson's popularity at University College, stirred his new friend up to the onslaught upon that gentleman and mesmerism. And now what is the end of all this? He is dead and forgotten, like other professors of University College who were violent against mesmerism: and left his excellent wife to be supported by others: and mesmerism is triumphant all over the earth. University College fell immediately that Dr. Elliotson resigned, and has sunk lower every year; Mr. Wakley turning round upon it and hastening its downfall to the best of his means. Such is the wonderful working of eternal laws.

If Mr. Fergusson has succeeded to Mr. Wakley's intimacy and friendship, still we cannot imagine that he meanly courts

* *Numerous Cases of Surgical Operations without pain in the Mesmeric State: &c., &c.* By John Elliotson, M.D., F.R.S. p. 32.

See Mr. Liston's gross conduct in No. VI., p. 283; No. XXII., p. 211.

† Mr. Wakley must be aware that his former friend, Mr. Liston, greatly favoured homœopathy: and associated with Dr. Quin. His opinion was indeed not worth a straw: and the probability is that he talked and acted in its favour from a desire to secure Dr. Quin's introduction of him to the aristocracy and rivet himself with the family of Lord Anglesea. His good opinion of homœopathy is mentioned as an argument in its favour by some English homœopathic authors. Mr. Wakley does not tell the medical world that Mr. Fergusson also meets the homœopaths, be this right or wrong.

Mr. Wakley and the herd of medical antimesmerists by turning his back *in the sight of men* upon mesmerists and sneering at mesmerism. When he was not intimate with Wakley,* and his present place in this man's favour was occupied by his rival Liston, he was candid. In the fourteenth number of *The Zoist*, published in 1847, we read that Mr. Thomas Bell, one of the professors of King's College, lecturer at Guy's Hospital, and secretary to the Royal Society, extracted quite painlessly a tooth, and afterwards quite painlessly six stumps. Mr. Bell stated that there was not the least indication of pain, or of consciousness of the operation, nor any change in the pulse; and that without the mesmeric state the pain must have been severe.

Mr. Fergusson gave his testimony honestly to the truth:

"The undersigned, who were present at the operation above mentioned, attest the accuracy of the statement."

"W. Fergusson, Professor of Surgery in King's College, and Surgeon to King's College Hospital.

E. Forbes, Professor of Botany in King's College.

James Luke, Surgeon to the London Hospital.

John Adams, Assistant-Surgeon to the London Hospital."†

In a case of affection of the prostate gland, in a man 70 years of age, treated in the ordinary way by Mr. Fergusson, mesmerism was employed at the same time by the patient's nephew with great benefit. The case is detailed in No. XXVIII. of *The Zoist*. Although the patient had been almost sleepless for five nights through agony, in spite of the strongest opiates, and was in great pain when the passes were begun, he fell into a sound sleep in five minutes and snored; and slept for an hour and a half, and then awoke in good spirits much refreshed, relieved the bladder without instruments, and took food. In about an hour he was sent to sleep again in four minutes, slept fifty-three minutes, again took refreshment, and again relieved the bladder without instruments. His nephew sent him to sleep a third time in three minutes and a half, and he slept soundly for two hours and twenty minutes—having slept altogether nearly five hours that night,—and again he was refreshed, and much to his delight continued to relieve his bladder freely and without the least pain.

What was Mr. Fergusson's conduct? Why—

"Mr. Fergusson called to see him in the morning, and said, 'Well, Mr. Jacobs, you have done more for him than I could;' and was very much pleased, and desired me to say to Dr. Elliotson that he was very satisfied with the effects of the sleep, and requested me

* He has joined the Wakleys in their Assurance Company.

† *Zoist*, No. XIV., p. 211.

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to repeat the mesmerism again on the following night. An opiate was given to Mr. Jones on Friday night (the night before I first mesmerised him), but without effect. *He had not had so much rest in any one day or night before for five weeks.*"

The patient completely recovered; and Mr. Fergusson

"Complimented me," says Mr. Jacobs, "upon my success, assuring me that the sleep had been most beneficial and conducive to the recovery of Mr. Jones."

Mr. Fergusson's conduct in these two cases reflects great credit upon him. Nay, more; we have heard Dr. Elliotson say that he lately met Mr. Fergusson in consultation, this gentleman being called in by the family as the surgeon instead of Sir Benjamin Brodie, purely on account of his honest and rational behaviour in regard to mesmerism: and that, in the consultation, Mr. Fergusson spontaneously suggested the use of mesmerism for the purpose of calming the patient. It is true that it was to Dr. Elliotson that he made the suggestion, and that he knew the family were most favourable to mesmerism. This, however, Mr. Fergusson, most wisely, did.

Mr. Wakley frightens some medical men into courting him and sneering at mesmerism, and has been attempting to frighten an M.P. who fears him not.

"We learn that there is a young French damsel practising in Wigmore-street, Cavendish-square, hight Mdle. Julia de B——, who treats ophthalmic disease mesmerically, in the manner described by the *Quarterly*. Whether the young Frenchwoman preceded the *Quarterly*, or whether the *Quarterly* be a humble follower of hers, we cannot certainly inform our readers, but we incline to the latter opinion as the most probable. Mdle. Julia is in great request for her extraordinary soothing powers amongst the elderly hypochondriacal gentlemen of the West-end who are bitten by mesmerism. We believe she has practised extensively, and we are told successfully, upon Sir Benjamin Hall, Bart., the M.P. for Marylebone, whose confidence in the profession we recommend the medical electors of Marylebone to remember when he next solicits their sweet voices at an election. Sir Benjamin has, or fancies he has, recovered the use of his head and eyes under the fascinating passes of Mdle. Julia, a circumstance which we dare say will be related in the next numbers of those kindred publications, the *Zoist* and the *British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review*."—Mr. WAKLEY, *Lancet*, Feb. 8, 1851, p. 160.

Zoist.

VI. *Cure of severe Abdominal Pain, by the father of the little patient.* Communicated by Dr. ELLIOTSON.

"The two translations of Baron Von Reichenbach's work were published about a year ago, and we waited with great curiosity for a critique in some of the Reviews. They will not presume, we said, to ignore such a famous philosopher as the German Baron, or to sneer at either of his translators. Ah! but they did ignore the Baron's book, though it is the most extraordinary volume that has appeared in the present century. And yet his researches actually and inevitably point out that Von Reichenbach commenced his experiments with a prejudice against animal magnetism. But it appears to us the difficulties of the science have terminated. The doctors may scoff to the less informed, but when such men as Sir William Hamilton, of Edinburgh, one of the first mental philosophers in the kingdom; as Sir David Brewster, Dr. Gregory, and others, have proclaimed their adhesion, it will do no longer to indulge in a fool-born jest, or a horse-laugh, or even to affect ignorance or indifference on the subject."—*Dublin Evening Post*, May 27, 1851.

MR. JANSON had more than once written to me respecting a gentleman at Sturminster, one of the Peace Society or League of Universal Brotherhood, who was one of his correspondents, and remarkable for great attainments acquired in the midst of a laborious life and for enlightened views and energy and excellence of character.

In April, Mr. Janson favoured me with a letter which he had received from Mr. Colbourne, the party in question, and the following is an extract from it.

"William Colbourne to Henry Umfreville Janson.

"Sturminster, 11th April, 1851.

"My dear Sir,—I find I have allowed a couple of posts to pass without thanking you for your last kind present of *The Zoist*. I did not intend this, but I have the old excuse to offer. I take time by the forelock with a little firmer grasp to-day, and send my sincere acknowledgments both for the book and your amusing letter. The number is certainly a highly interesting one, as indeed they are all; and surely not the least interesting is the case (page 391) communicated by yourself. When I have read it carefully, which I shall not accomplish for a week, so little time have I at my own disposal, I shall spend sixpence upon it, and forward it into Scotland. I find by news from the North, received yesterday, that your two last letters in the Exeter paper, which I sent up, have made no small stir amongst the good folk in "modern Athens;" they are at present taking a regular turn amongst some topping people. I hope they will find their way back to me again some day. By my Louise's account of things, mesmerism has taken a higher stand and excited more interest in Edinburgh this winter than ever before. I know she will lend her little help to raise the row.

"I had a very pretty bit of practice myself on Wednesday evening. I have never had much practical experience, being somewhat of a puny fellow, shut up within these four brick walls for so great a portion of my existence, that I fear I should have but little power over my robust neighbours, the farmers; but on the evening mentioned, my little Sidney, the same who is celebrated in the document you enclosed in your last, was suffering from severe pain in the stomach, a little above the umbilical region, or between the chest and the abdomen. I had not seen him myself all the afternoon, but according to the servant's account he had been moping and groaning with it for at least four hours, and it had resisted all her applications of hot tea, &c., to remove it. I had been glancing cursorily at *The Zoist* just before, and it occurred to me that a few passes would do him no harm at all events: so I made some slow passes over the part affected for about five minutes, and then enquired how he felt. He replied that it was still there, but he thought it was better. This gave me a little encouragement, and I took him into another room to be undisturbed by the other children, and there I mesmerised him with all the volition and energy that I could bring to bear for more than ten minutes without ceasing; he then declared himself much better. I followed it up again for from five to ten minutes longer, when he found himself quite free, entirely free, from pain, and so he continued the whole of the remaining evening; and, to use his own words, he 'quite forgot it.' Now this could be no effort of imagination; a child of five years could know nothing of what was going to be done to him; could have no more imagination to prompt him than Miss Martineau's cow. I must add the sequel though, which is, that for more than an hour after the operation above detailed, I had a very disagreeable pain in the very spot or part of the body where I had mentally imagined Sidney's to be when making the passes over him."

At Mr. Janson's suggestion, I took the liberty of writing to Mr. Colbourne for further particulars, and received the following answer:—

"Sturminster, April 21, 1851.

"Sir,—Presuming my letter to Mr. Janson states the duration of the affection, namely, from before 2 o'clock until after 6, and the transfer of the pain to the parent, there will be little else to add unless you think what I have written on the annexed page as copy for the compositor be worth doing so. The person there alluded to is a Mr. Spinney, secretary to our institution, who came in to announce that our lecture-

room was put in due order, as I had engaged to 'hold forth' that night. I was cuddling and nursing the little chap on my knee, and we spoke together about him, noticing his pale face, which plainly told that it was no fancied ill. Mr. Spinney was greatly surprised, when at the room doors I told him of the doings and the result of them.

"I remain, Sir, yours very respectfully,
"Dr. Elliotson. W. COLBOURNE."

"That the affection was not of that very trivial character which you may be inclined to suppose, can be evidenced by a gentleman who happened to call on me that evening, and who noticed and condoled with the little sufferer. This party was equally surprised and interested on my telling him of the application and the result an hour or two afterwards. I have frequently, before and since this case, mesmerised slight cuts, burns, and scratches in this and my other children, with beneficial effects."

VII. *Cure of convulsive and rigid Fits, and extreme sensitiveness, and muscular debility: together with some peculiar mesmeric phenomena.* By Dr. ELLIOTSON.

"We all know or have witnessed the operation of the nitrous oxyde on the nervous system: the astonishing influence of mesmerism: the anæsthetic effect of the inhalation of ether," &c., &c.—Lumleyan Lecture delivered before the Royal College of Physicians, London, April, 1851. By Dr. Badeley,* Fellow of the College, as published in the *Medical Gazette*.

Those who are fortunate enough to possess the first volume of *The Zoist*, now so scarce, may be acquainted with the interesting mesmeric cure of Master William Salmon, who, when eight years old, in 1834, after labouring for two years under attacks of intense neuralgic pains of the abdomen, had fits of shaking and rigidity for a year, and then fits of genuine epilepsy, each of which left some part or other palsied for a time.

"On January 26th, 1839, I was summoned to him, late in the afternoon, and found him lying on a couch, so paralyzed that not

* Dr. Badeley deserves great praise for his honesty and courage in thus speaking of mesmerism as a truth in that College where two Fellows have lately ventured upon such vulgar, unseemly, and ignorant (No. XXIII., p. 234) conduct at a public lecture, as Dr. F. Hawkins and Dr. J. A. Wilson did unblushingly, secure of impunity from the President and other officers. Indeed, while Dr. J. A. Wilson was on one occasion so discoursing, the President, Dr. Paris, is said to have nudged his next neighbour and wagged his head to one side knowingly.—*Zoist*.

only could he not walk, but he *could not raise his head* in the least from the pillow, or move it to one side. *If others raised him even a few inches, he became insensible*; or, as the family said, fainted. Of all this I satisfied myself. A fit which had taken place twelve days before had left him thus paralyzed in the legs and trunk and neck.

"Though I had just resigned at University College because I was not allowed to cure my patients with mesmerism, the father had no view to mesmerism, and gave me pen, ink, and paper to write a prescription. But knowing, as all medical men in their hearts do, that medicine in the majority of cases of epilepsy and numerous other nervous affections is of no, of little, or of secondary use, whatever number of pills and bottles are consumed and other appliances made, I said nothing, but went to my carriage, and requested Mr. Wood who was in it to come and help me mesmerise a patient. We returned to the house. I raised the child to the sitting posture, and *almost immediately* he became comatose, as many epileptic and hysterical patients are in the habit of becoming between the perfect fits or when perfect fits have not yet shewn themselves. He was not pale, nor was his pulse altered:—the state was coma, not fainting. I restored him to the horizontal position and *made transverse passes* before his chest and face; and he awoke suddenly and perfectly, with *the usual sudden inspiration which I had always seen characterize the return of the Okeys and many other mesmerised patients* to the waking state. The parents said that the return to consciousness was *much more rapid than they had ever seen it before*,—shewing that his state was really mesmeric. I then, without saying a word, took Mr. Wood's hand, and he the father's, and with the other hand I made passes before the child from his face downwards as he lay. His eyelids *presently* began to *droop*, and in about *five minutes* nearly closed, and were in a state of rapid tremor. His jaw had become locked; and he could not be roused by rough shaking, nor did he appear to hear, except that clapping the hands in his face increased the tremulous contraction of his eyelids. I made passes along his arm and hand and the extremity extended and rose, and presently fell: then passes transversely, and it somewhat moved transversely: and the longitudinal passes on being repeated caused his extremity to extend and rise again. The child was ignorant of mesmerism and sleep-waking or somnambulism; but beautifully displayed, though unprepared for my mesmeric proceedings, the phenomena of mesmerism and sleep-waking. He was fast asleep, as his breathing and indifference shewed. He fell asleep in the true mesmeric manner, his eyelids closed and trembled, and his jaw was locked. Nothing could be more genuine. To talk of imposition would be preposterous, and only display ignorance of the subject. But he could, like many other sleep-wakers, partially hear and see. His eyes were not completely closed, and I found that he heard me. For, while making the longitudinal passes I said aloud that I would make the transverse, but continued the longitudinal. However, his hand moved transversely. The explanation was this. There was excited in him a strong propensity to imitation and obedience. He

had no occult power, as some sleep-wakers have, of knowing what I was doing; he judged by his sight and hearing; and, if I could deceive him, he did what I led him to believe I ordered or was doing. During the whole of my attendance he scarcely went beyond this. His eyes were always a little open, as every body clearly saw, and he directed them to his mesmeriser; and when he was able, as he was in a few days, he directed his head likewise in order to watch his mesmeriser. There was no disguise: he had a strong propensity to imitate and obey, and used his external senses naturally for information. I have had patients who learnt what was doing without any known means, and imitated grimaces made behind them, when their eyes were closed. Persons ignorant of the subject pronounce patients, circumstanced like this boy, to be impostors. I did so myself in two or three instances, when I first attended to mesmerism: and deeply do I now lament the injustice I did the individuals. I was not aware that the propensity to obey and imitate might be excited in sleep-waking, while no means beyond the external senses existed to supply the patient with information: and when I deceived a patient and led him to imitate what he fancied me to do, and not what I really did, I accused him of imposition. My conscience is never easy when I think of my injustice. A young woman in whom this was remarkably the case, and against whom I became so greatly prepossessed that I scolded her and did not take any interest in her and ceased to mesmerise her, died of her diseases in the hospital after I left town one autumn. My moments are to this day embittered when my injustice towards her recurs to my memory. My only excuse is my ignorance. I must be thankful that I did not, like my brethren, remain ignorant; but that, seeing there was truth in mesmerism, applied myself to it, till I became familiarized with its facts.

"I next moved Master Salmon's legs by vertical tractive movements; and then tried his head. It soon began to move as if an effort were made to raise it. Mr. Wood and myself made the movements together, and the effort became greater and greater, till at last the boy raised it from the pillow,—a thing he had not done for ten days. It soon fell back again. But we persevered again and again, till he rose into the sitting posture. The more we slowly retreated in making these tractive movements, the stronger appeared to be the influence. Every time we had retreated as far as the room would allow, he fell back powerless. At last, after having drawn him into the sitting posture, we made tractive passes from the top of his head upwards; and this soon made him elevate his head, and then elevate his whole frame till he positively stood erect on the floor. We had moved him to the foot of the couch with his legs hanging down, before I tried to make him stand. I walked backwards making tractive passes from him to me, and he slowly followed me. The father and mother were petrified, and called in their people from the shop to witness the strange sight of their child with his head nodding in sleep and slowly moving after me, though unable to raise his head

an inch or move his legs at all a quarter of an hour before. The room was behind the shop and small; and I opened the door, receded into the shop, and he slowly followed me. I turned into the room again, making the tractive passes, and he went round it after me. I stood on one leg, he stood on one leg; I turned round, he turned round, I opened my mouth, he opened his mouth. I drew him onwards to the couch and laid him down upon it. I awoke him two or three times by blowing in his face; and sent him to sleep again presently by longitudinal passes before him.

"After a sovereign had been held in my hand for a minute, I put it into one of his, which instantly closed upon it, but relaxed as soon as a piece of iron was rubbed upon his hand. This experiment was frequently repeated and invariably with the same result, except once, and then the rigidity was rather increased. The iron, I believe, abolished the effect of the gold; but the friction increased it. If therefore the friction happened to be rapid, it might more than counterbalance the specific effect of the iron. I met with precisely the same results in the Okeys;—simple friction, no matter with what, increased the effects of gold and silver, &c., while iron, held still, abolished it. After the sovereign was removed, the palm was rubbed with I forget what, and it closed rigidly again, but relaxed when a piece of iron was applied to the back of it.

"I moistened my finger with saliva and rubbed it on his palm, his hand instantly closed: I did the same to the back of his hand, it instantly extended, and the extension was increased by farther rubbing. At one time time when gold had been applied, he became cataleptic: but his extended arms or legs could not be made to descend by darting the hands at them as those of the Okeys could. Friction along the hand increased the rigidity. I at length made transverse passes on his eyebrows and awoke him, and did not send him to sleep again, but asked him whether he had been sitting up and walking. He replied, 'No, I have been asleep.' He had no knowledge of anything that had transpired, nor was he at all fatigued. I gave him my hand and desired him to sit up. He did so. I then desired him to stand and walk. He did so; but was quite at a loss to understand it, saying, 'How is it?' I then replaced him in the recumbent posture; because his newly acquired strength would soon have been exhausted.

"Jan. 27th. On visiting him in the middle of the next day, he immediately raised himself on the sofa and held out his hand to me. He had experienced no headache since the preceding evening, though before he had long suffered much from it. I put my gold watch into his hand, but it produced no effect. After I was gone, however, he had a peculiar sensation in his hand. As I expected company at three to witness some mesmeric phenomena, I begged his father to drive him to my house. When he had arrived, I put him into the sitting posture in an easy chair, and it was not till the end of five minutes that his insensibility took place, and his hands became cold. His mother stated to the company that previously he instantly be-

came insensible if even his head was raised enough for his nightcap to be put on. I laid him down, and he soon recovered with the usual sudden inspiration. I made longitudinal passes before his face, and his eyelids began to tremble, and in a few minutes he was asleep. I drew his arms and legs in different directions by tractive passes; and then by means of them drew him forwards in the chair, and then upwards, and he stood upright on the floor, followed me all about the room, and imitated every movement which I made. At last I made outward passes with my thumbs on my own eyebrows. He did the same on his own, and immediately awoke to his natural state. He was in perfect ignorance of all that had happened, and declared himself not in the least tired. . . .

"In his sleep, before I drew him up from the chair, I applied gold, first touched a short time by myself (mesmerised) to the palm of his hand, which instantly contracted, and any metal touched by the gold then had the same effect.

"28th. Was now able to sit up a long while without insensibility coming on. I sent him to sleep, and, standing at his right hand, drew up his legs by tractive passes. After they had dropped, I in the same way attempted to draw up his right arm: but, instead of it, the legs came up again. I then tried the left arm. It did not rise on account of being wedged in between his body and the side of the couch: but his right arm and both legs came up. I disengaged his left arm, and, standing on his left side, endeavoured to draw up his left arm, but both arms and both legs rose, and continued to rise though I ceased to make any tractive movement.

"This is very curious, and similar to what I continually observe. When a muscular effect has been produced,—elevation, depression, extension—it has a strong tendency to recur, when any attempt to produce a muscular effect is made. The idea seems fixed in the patient, and confounds itself with the new impression or even gets the upper hand of it, at least for a time. Not only will a previous movement of the same sitting then return, but a movement of a former sitting. I had a patient, who, like many others, though fast asleep mesmerically, and with his eyes bandaged, would close or extend his hand, exactly as I closed or extended mine near his: though how he knew what I did is a perfect mystery. The effect came slowly, and, if I placed my fingers and thumbs in strange positions, very slowly, and not till after many efforts and mistakes, though at last most accurately. I had one day put my thumb between the fore and middle fingers, and he had done the same. The following day I put my hand in some other position, and before he imitated this, which he at length did, he put his thumb precisely in the condition of the previous day, and for some time he continued to shew a tendency to this, when I presented to his hand my closed or extended hand for him to imitate. Another patient would close her hands in imitation of mine. But after some months, I held mine extended near her's. She extended her's, but always closed it first, and often two or three times before she extended it. This patient had her eyes partially open, though I could never satisfy myself that

she saw. But though they were open, and she might see, she invariably for months executed the closure of the hand before she would extend it in imitation of mine. It frequently happens also, that other parts besides those from which the mesmeriser makes tractive passes will move. Sometimes both hands, both legs, or all four, if traction is made to one only. Old movements continually recur, when, if the patient had a desire to impose they would not, because no steps are taken to prevent him from seeing what you are about. There is the disposition to imitate or obey, acting not only upon information it receives in any way, but influenced by a previous association, which may be more powerful than the present new impulse.

"So strong is the disposition when once given, that the movement will continue after the mesmeriser ceases to give an impulse; and, if he hurries to another experiment, the old effect may continue and be repeated again and again before his new attempt succeeds;—and this equally whether no precaution or every precaution is taken to prevent the patient from knowing what you are attempting."

On the 29th he was much stronger and better, and I made some more experiments with metals upon him.

"Mesmerised lead and iron, placed repeatedly in his hands for some time, had no effect. On a mesmerised half-crown being put into them, they closed; and he found considerable difficulty in opening them, saying, that they stuck. I desired him to close them again, which he did with some difficulty, and the rigidity was so much increased that he was unable to open them. I applied the poker to the back of his left hand, and this instantly opened: I rubbed the palm with the poker, and it closed again firmly, the friction probably overpowering the specific influence of the iron. Lead was applied to the back of his closed hand, and this slowly relaxed, probably from the effect of the silver dying away and not from any influence of the lead.

"I took the half-crown out, held it in my own hand, and then placed it on the back of his. The hand opened more. Another mesmerised half-crown was put upon the first, and the hand extended widely and so firmly that he could not close it. A piece of iron was placed upon the half-crowns, and he then could close it partially. The half-crowns were removed, and the iron left alone in his hand, and he opened and shut it with perfect ease. Iron, rubbed on the back or palm of the hand, caused rigid extension or closure: it was applied without friction to the back of his hand, and relaxation at once followed. Two sovereigns first held in my hand and then wiped, that mesmerised perspiration might have no influence, were placed in his hands and caused immediate closure. I rubbed lead on the back of his left hand, and it opened instantly. I rubbed the back of the right hand against the arm of the chair, and it opened slowly. Some patients are not affected by metals: of those who are affected, some are affected in one manner, some in another: many

precisely as the Okeys were affected, while the susceptibility to their effect lasted, but its duration was not three years. The effect of gold, silver and iron, upon this little boy, was so similar to that upon the Okeys, that I thought of poor Mr. Wakley when I saw the same phenomena come forth. . . .

"I now drew him by tractive passes off his chair. He stood and followed me all about the room, and more quickly than the first night; but reeling and tottering, though he never fell; turning round, sitting down, stooping, standing on one leg, folding his arms, trying to whistle, exactly as I did. After great amusement in this way, I passed my thumbs upon his eyebrows and awoke him. His mother wished him to lie down supposing he must be tired, but he sat up, declaring he was not tired at all.

"This is one of the most striking things in mesmerism:—that persons very weak, perhaps exhausted by previous exertion, shall be thrown into the mesmeric sleep-waking, and be kept in constant muscular action, perhaps extending their arms and legs, or in a state of rigid flexion, forced into and retained in the most awkward, and one would think painful, attitudes, such as they could not support a hundredth part of the time in the natural state, and on being awakened, know nothing more than that they feel much stronger and better than before you sent them to sleep.

"30th. So strong that he sits up without any support of cushion or back, and walks across the room without assistance.

"I drew up one hand; some one else the other; and I then drew him upright from the floor. When he was sent to sleep, the attraction to me was so powerful, that he not only followed me about the room, but stood as close as possible to me, and, when I sat down, sat in the same chair, pushing violently at me as if he wished to be in the very same point of space. I shall in the next number publish a case in which a young man invariably did this, sitting or standing or kneeling, never satisfied with mere contact, but driving on against his mesmeriser. I have two female patients, one of whom approaches as near as possible, but never touches her mesmeriser, and the other puts her head forward, and, as soon as it touches, she withdraws it and stands fixed. The child now attempted to drive against me, while standing, but soon gave up and yielded to his propensity to imitate all I did. I took a spoon off the sideboard and laid it on the floor. He did not go through the whole of this, but only the latter part,—he stooped down and put his hand on the floor. When I spoke, he spoke in a whisper, repeating my very words. He tried to whistle when I whistled. In following me about he reeled so far over to one side that we all thought continually that it was impossible for him not to fall, yet he always righted himself and never fell: and though his hands were often within an inch of the ground, he invariably recovered himself without touching it with them.

"He was again placed in a chair, and a board held before his eyes. I endeavoured to draw up his right leg: his hands moved, and his feet came up a little, after trying a long while. I partially awakened him, or rendered his stupor less deep, by rubbing my

thumbs once upon his eyebrows, and again attempted to draw up his legs. They now followed till they were on a level with the chair, when they suddenly fell and the sleep became more profound. Here was a beautiful illustration of a fact invariably observed in the Okeys. After a strong or continued muscular exertion, as the ascent of an arm, &c., &c., sudden relaxation would always occur, and the sleep become so profound that they dropped powerless and no impression could for a time be made upon them. The boy had never seen them,—all was nature in them and him, and I may add in thousands of others."

On the 31st

"Sleep took place with passes made at the distance of ten feet, though not so quickly as usual. I laid him flat on his back upon the floor, and *by tractive passes upwards made him rise and stand up without assistance from touching the floor with his hands.* This he was desired to do after he awoke, *but was unable.*"

He always had anaesthesia in the mesmeric state.

"Such was the insensibility to pain from mechanical cause in his mesmeric sleep, that, though from having for a *very long while* had an eruption with open sores upon his head* he could not bear it touched in his waking state, Mr. Wood put his hand upon it, after sending him to sleep, without occasioning any sign of sensation. His mother, noticing this, proposed sending him to sleep every day when she was going to dress it, as the agony he suffered from having it dressed was extreme, his irritability of system rendering him a bad hand at bearing pain, and the hour of the process was dreaded by both him and her. This was done ever afterwards, till the head was healed. When about to dress it, she made a few passes before his face, sent him to sleep, dressed it without his noticing what she did, and blew in his face and awoke him again, and he happily found all the business was done. The first day, not having been led to expect this, he asked her sometime after she awoke him, when she meant to dress his head.

"Feb. 6. Not only does his health improve, but the *sores on his head have healed so much that he can bear his head touched in his waking state.*"

The kindness of the father was such that he allowed me to take any one to see the phenomena at his house; and I refused no one, either in or out of the medical profession.

"A great number of gentlemen and ladies went at my visits to witness his walking after me about the room, staggering and reeling, but never falling, with his eyes just open and looking full of sleep, and then sitting still in perfect repose and breathing heavily when I sat still. A few medical men witnessed the case; but they merely thought it very odd and went about their business again like men

* These were the result of severe stimulating applications ordered by his medical attendants.

wise in their generation, not pondering on such wonders in the working of the brain, nor thinking of any improvement in the confused and unsatisfactory, and often absurd and injurious, treatment which has been followed from generation to generation in such diseases.

"The boy never spoke the first; and he always replied in a faint whisper and in very few words."

He became clairvoyant as to his own disease; for on March 7, he declared, in answer to my enquiries, that he should have no more fits, and but five threatenings or little attacks of shaking without unconsciousness—"indications" as he called them—and those in the course of three months. All this was exactly fulfilled; and he has never had the least return of his disease, though twelve years have now elapsed.

In him I made, on the 10th of June, 1839, the curious discovery that one half of the body might be sent into the mesmeric state.

"I pointed to one eye only—the right. Both equally nearly closed. When I spoke, he answered faintly that he was neither asleep nor awake: that he could not hear or see with his right side,—that is, his right half was asleep. If I raised the right arm, it dropped, for that side was asleep, and he never was cataleptic. If I raised the left, it remained, for he had power in his left half, and he voluntarily sustained it. This was the first time I witnessed mesmerism of one side of the brain only: and I had forgotten the fact when I saw cerebral organs of one side only mesmerised for the first time a year ago. He said that I could not draw him in this state: *nor could I*.

"When I raised his eyelids, I saw more of the cornea of the left. The right being asleep, was rather turned up. This was a beautiful fact, and in harmony with the reality of the rest. The exquisite delicacy of mesmeric phenomena would be full proof to all, were some not destitute of delicacy of observation and true feeling and common sense. I then pointed my fingers towards both eyes; and he suddenly sank and breathed hard as in sleep. *I now drew him as usual*.

"On another occasion, when I mesmerised one eye only, he said, he was 'cut in half;' that is, one half only was powerless as in sleep."

When Master William Salmon was cured with mesmerism in 1839,* he had a little brother, named James, ten years

* The elder brother was some years ago set up by his father as an upholsterer in Bedford Row, and supplied the editor of the *Medical Times* with furniture to no small amount, and, at one of the numerous interviews which he has subsequently had upon the matter, he mentioned his own case, but was met with the reply that patients use mesmerism when they are getting better and then ascribe the cure to mesmerism. The man who would recklessly say this would, of course, not hesitate to say that mesmerism without the support given to it by divines would have gone long ago to the bottomless pit of oblivion (See

old. Nine years after his cure, this brother, then nineteen years of age, while talking with his father at 9 o'clock in the evening of Tuesday, the 21st of November, 1848—having just made up the shop books and found them correct—was seized with a disposition to commit suicide, and immediately ran screaming from the shop in which they were into a room behind, thence into a yard, and thence along a passage—the distance being about a dozen yards,—and then fell down insensible at the foot of the stairs. On recovering in about ten minutes, he felt insane, and could not refrain from flinging his head, limbs and body about, and acting so violently that several persons were required to hold him, and he screamed and attempted to bite, and at the same time had a very severe pain and weight at the top of his head. After this violence had lasted above an hour, he became more composed; but still felt his head very heavy and could not stand. In half an hour more, he walked up to bed and went to sleep. At two in the morning he awoke very giddy; vomited copiously and had a severe affection of his bowels for half an hour. He was then much better, went to sleep again, and rose at 9 o'clock, dressed himself, and went down stairs and breakfasted; he felt tolerably well for about an hour, when, on taking up a book, he became giddy as soon as his eyes met the letters, and he soon experienced a violent pain and heat in his head, and his back began to feel very weak and to ache. Spirits and water were applied to his head in vain, and his mother then sent for the family medical attendant, who arrived about 4 o'clock, ascribed the symptoms to the spine, and sent a blister for the nape of the neck and all down the spine, and some medicine. The eyes could scarcely bear the light as the day advanced. At 7 o'clock, while walking about the room for a change, his knees suddenly gave way and he fell down, and was too weak for some time to move, and was carried to bed and fainted. He could not walk again for three weeks, getting worse and worse in every respect. The next day, after the blister was taken off at the end of twelve hours, he began to have attacks every five minutes of a sense of painful tightness at the top and back of the head, rigidity, closure of the eyes, and a clicking noise

Motte, p. 141), or to quote a part of Mr. Sandby's expressions on one occasion, and a part of Dr. Elliotson's on another, so as to give the very reverse of their meanings, (See No. XXX., p. 171, and No. XXIX., p. 31,) and to falsely accuse the most truth-loving men of fabricating mesmeric cases, (See No. XXXII., p. 383,) or to say that Dr. Elliotson was called upon to resign his chair in University College, when all the world knows that he indignantly quitted it, to the dismay of the Council and the Professors, who had no idea that he would contemplate such a step, (No. XXIX., p. 32.) Such, be it known to the public, are the men employed by booksellers to conduct the medical periodical press.—*Zoist*.

such as is made to horses or poultry. Yet he slept calmly at night. The medical gentleman said that the fits arose from fulness of blood in the head, and bled him in the arm with great relief to his pain on the third day of his illness; and from that time his eyes remained wide open in the attacks, and these lasted longer. Leeches were next applied to his temples the following day, with relief to his pain of head, but with the effect of greatly weakening him, and causing the attacks for the first time to come on even when he was lying down: and he could no longer raise his arms, nor allow any person to raise his head for him from the pillow; but the fits ceased. In five days more he had blisters behind his ears with great benefit, and then gradually improved, so that at last he sat up all day. But still, ten days after the blisters had been put behind his ears, the sense of weight at the back of the head induced the medical attendant to apply a blister to the nape of the neck. This caused him to be worse than ever: he grew weaker and weaker, was tormented with flatulence, trembled exceedingly, and was next seized with violent convulsive fits. His hair was cut close, cold lotions were applied to his head: the room was darkened: every body spoke in a whisper, the door was muffled, and no one entered without first gently tapping,—without all which precautions he had palpitation or a fit, so intense was his sensitiveness as well as his debility. He was kept on very low diet, and took abundance of cathartics. Thus the second and third week passed. In his fits he was quite sensible, but very violent; bit his tongue and hands, and sometimes broke his teeth in biting things within his reach. After each fit he was exhausted, but did not sleep. The father often entreated the medical attendant to have a consultation, but was always met with the reply that he fully understood the case. One day, there being a very severe fit, and he confessing that he could not arrest the flatulence, the father insisted upon a second opinion, and named a physician. This gentleman, after witnessing a fit, said he thought the poor boy was in love; and, having made all leave the room, begged the lad not to mind making a confession to him. The boy assured the physician that he had never yet been in love, and had no sort of idea what the naughty flame was. Cold water was ordered to be thrown over him, which would certainly extinguish flame if there were any, and would cool if there were not; and tonics and good living were prescribed. This plan produced great benefit. The convulsive fits ceased, and left the rigid fits only. His debility lessened, so that, from being obliged to remain in his bed room, he got into the drawing room,

though sitting in an easy chair with his head on a pillow, and unable to walk except between two persons; and then into the dining room down stairs, and to sit without a pillow under his head. Yet the debility of his back rendered a pillow necessary at his loins; and he could not walk more than a dozen yards without resting, and at the end of the day fainted several times in going up stairs to bed.

His convulsive fits now began again, and, in his own opinion, from sitting all day in the drawing room, where the number of persons excited him. If he were fatigued, his spirits flagged, he shed tears, he became excited, rigid, or convulsed, for about twenty minutes, and then began crying again for ten minutes, and recovered or had a second attack. If he heard music or read, he grew rigid for a few minutes and then experienced extreme debility and flatulence.

Getting no better, he visited his physician in January, and visited him once a week from the middle of January to the end of April. He was ordered the cold shower bath, bitter ale, light suppers, and some pills. But the fits were as violent as ever. His physician told him it was greatly in his own power to get well if he chose to resist the approach of the fits. He tried, and succeeded better than he expected: and afterwards had the rigid fits only, without the convulsive, and those very often every day. He went to Deal, though told by his physician that change of air would produce no lasting benefit. He was greatly improved, but still could not bear any sort of vibration or an attempt at reading. His physician declined prescribing for him, and said that patience only would cure him, offering most kindly to see him at any time without expense. In two days after his return he had a relapse of both the rigid and the violent convulsive fits; and extreme debility followed. The lower part of his back seemed to give way, nor could he bear the least noise nor hum a tune without a sense of tightness in the head and general rigidity.

At the end of three weeks from his last visit to his physician, finding himself so ill and thinking the physician was not likely to do him any good, he wished to consult me. The physician, on hearing this, said that mesmerism was no more than what was called Perkinism when he was a boy, and "no more than the effect of a dull sensation, such as the sound of a waterfall or any monotonous sound, which of course would produce sleep," and that there was "really no such thing as mesmerism:" grew excited, and scolded, and rose from his chair and walked about the room, and so frightened Master James Salmon that the youth dropped the subject and took his leave as expeditiously as he could. The lad grew worse

and worse: could scarcely walk on account of the weakness and pain of his back: and in three minutes after attempting to walk in the street was obliged to be carried into a shop: and his fits all continued.

In addition to this account, for the whole of which I am indebted to the patient, I must mention that he ascribed his disease to having been greatly excited by riding on a velocipede. For eight months before his attack, he and one of the young men in his father's employment took a fancy to rise at five o'clock several times a week and make long excursions on these machines before breakfast and business. The machines would frequently break; and between the worry of these misfortunes, the expense, the anxiety to wake in time, and the exertion of the expedition, he was in high excitement, to say nothing of the fatigue being on an empty stomach before the business of the day commenced: and he began to feel unwell in August before the attack in November, 1848.

He was brought to me in August, 1849: and I gave it as my decided opinion that mesmerism would cure him. His mother-in-law offered to perform it daily for half an hour, by slow passes from opposite his forehead to opposite his stomach. But she was not young or very strong, nor in perfect health: and consequently a shopman promised to take her place. The youth was not affected immediately, and when I called from time to time I found that they had all grown careless, and that he was mesmerised only now and then, and never efficiently; that his mesmeriser often left off and went away in the midst of the process, and that interruptions and sudden noises were endless. The result of this mismanagement was, as I had warned them, that he grew no better: but actually worse. The sudden noises while he was under the process, and, above all, the frequency of his mesmeriser leaving him while it was going on, produced extreme irritability: for his was eventually an instance of great mesmeric attachment and attraction, and this attraction is not unusually felt, and was in his case, before sleep is ever induced, and while the patient is not aware of it, as I myself have ascertained.* Mesmerism itself acted well upon him, for

* See this fact in No. VI., p. 210: "I have a patient in whose mesmeric sleep there is a powerful attraction to me, and he grasps my hands firmly. Before he is asleep, while still wide awake, looking at me as I look at him and hold one of his hands in mine while the other is on his forehead, this attraction will come on, so that his hand grasps mine. On my telling him of this the first time, he looked down and saw that it was so; but he did not know it before, and assured me had not consciously grasped my hand. On subsequent occasions the same has often happened,—the mesmeric effect in the feeling of friendship taking place before there was any very great advance towards sleep; but he, now suspecting

it always warmed him: but these disturbances made it indirectly injurious to him, and he had better not have been mesmerised at all.* His fits grew worse, and he would become rigid and remain so for five minutes if any person spoke to him unexpectedly, and then suffer such exhaustion as for an hour to be unable to stand. Trifling fits for a minute or two occurred all day, without obvious cause, or from such slight circumstances as his holding a skein of silk or wool while another wound it, or attempting to do anything with his hands.

Pitying him, and feeling an interest in the family from having formerly cured his brother and produced exquisite phenomena and found the parents as excellent persons as exist,—grateful, kind, conscientious, and courageous to tell all the history of the elder brother's cure to everybody, and at the time of the treatment to allow me to shew the case to any number of persons, medical or not medical, noble or humble, I offered in the middle of December to mesmerise him myself, if he would come regularly to my house every evening. They all gladly accepted my offer, and he came seven times every week with the greatest regularity.

Two things must strike everybody as very singular. The one that, knowing how readily and permanently the elder brother had been cured of a similar disease after the complete failure of drugs and the common routine, they never thought of mesmerism, but went on month after month, bleeding and blistering, and then drugging and changing the air: and, when the family doctor did no good, called in a physician who never prescribed mesmerism and indeed scorned it; and had

the matter and therefore attending to the point, would say, 'Sir, I feel my fingers curling round your hand, but I can't help it; I don't curl them round.' However, before he is quite asleep, his hand is firmly grasping mine, nor is he able to relax it. And as a farther illustration that this was the emotion of attachment and an unconscious exertion of volition, I must remark that when squeezing my hands with painful tightness in the moments of deep sleep, he would frown and let them go if I conversed with others, and would not take them again while I continued conversing. I am certain that persons, that is, the brain, can unconsciously receive external impressions, and unconsciously act upon these impressions; so unconsciously as to deny, with no falsehood on their part, that they received the impression or did the act; and this while awake—while apparently awake, but, I should say, in a waking state with a dash of sleep on certain feelings and exertions of what we call will. The materialist only, who is the only true cerebral physiologist, sees the simple explanation of all this; sees that all is ascribable to partial cerebral activity,—that one portion, or some portions, of the brain are active independently of the rest, without the knowledge of the rest, just as one portion of the surface of the body may be active in secreting, and the rest not, and partial perspiration is the result." See also No. V., pp. 54, 58, 59.

* See a case of my own in which fits came on from my being obliged to leave the patient without waking her and from the approximation of others.—No. VI., p. 201.

recourse to me at the eleventh hour. The only explanation they can give is that, when he was suddenly seized at first, they sent for their family medical attendant; and, when they resolved on a consultation, forgot me whose services had been gratuitous. I must add that the medical gentleman who had attended the elder brother was dead, or he would have immediately recommended mesmerism, so thoroughly satisfied of its truth and efficacy had he become while I treated his patient, and so good a man was he,—Mr. Winston, of Charterhouse-square, a quaker. The only explanation which occurs to me is the one which is applicable to a large part of the continued foolish opinions and actions of mankind—that they did not think at all, but went on at a sluggish jog-trot, like nine tenths of mankind, without raising their heads and looking about, without any reflection, any feeling of enquiry and intellectual activity. The other remarkable circumstance is that the family did not put mesmerism in force efficiently.

Never before I witnessed and conducted mesmeric treatment had I an idea of the want of earnestness in a large portion of mankind when one would suppose there would be right earnestness. I was consulted in a case of blindness from opacity of the cornea of one eye, and of the lens of the other, in a very rich and good old lady whom no oculist pretended he could benefit; and I strongly advised mesmerism. Two different surgeons, excellent men and excellent mesmerisers, were dismissed after a short trial, of the one in town and the other in the country, and merely because the old lady did not like the trouble of sitting still at a certain hour daily for half an hour: and yet there had been an evident beginning of improvement. I was consulted in a case of epilepsy in a young lady whom nothing had benefitted; and was consulted, I was told, because my opinion might be depended upon. The father agreed to mesmerise her daily; but after a time gave up: and, when I asked him why, his reply was, "Oh, we are trusting to diet." (Trusting to diet to cure epilepsy!) and added, moreover, that sometimes he was busy, and could not find leisure. Yet this is a very sharp and active person: his time is pretty much (certainly all the evening) his own, and I often see him doing nothing: and he has some grown up strong sons living in his house, and not over occupied, and not at all in the evening: and I dare say they all love the afflicted young lady. His family medical attendant, however, I believe, remains intentionally ignorant of mesmerism and is unfavourable to it.—I was consulted in a case of amaurotic blindness in a gentleman in the prime of life, and one of the first mesmerisers in England offered and began to mesmerise him:

and a glimmering of improvement was effected. But he suddenly gave up and goes instead yearly to some German oculist on the Rhine who does him no good and never will. I meet with patients every week who have received no benefit notwithstanding the expense and trouble, and disgust and frequently the pain, of treatment under numerous medical men, consulted for weeks, months, or years, and begin mesmerism; but, because they are not improved or sent to sleep, in one sitting, in a week, a month, or a few months, give up mesmerism, though it requires them only to sit still for a short time daily, and many of them can have it at a cheap rate or at no expense at all. Some, and their friends too, relinquish mesmerism when they know that suffering and death are uncontrollable by other means. The fact is that a very large portion of mankind are as weak in some point of character as a very large portion are wicked in some point; however rational the one portion may seem, and however good the other portion would have us believe them to be. An immense proportion of mankind prove to be very silly, or without steadiness of purpose or clear views, when you are able to observe them closely, and sadly annoy sensible and earnest persons; just as the hypocritical who seem so respectable and religious annoy the noble and virtuous, who value truth, integrity and benevolence beyond the favour of the weak, the proud, the selfish, and the pharisaical, the last of whom patronise the very man whom they silently despise, and openly persecute the high-minded and conscientious whom they fear and hate.

No unpaid mesmeriser should undertake the treatment of a case unless a promise is given him that the process shall be persevered with for a fixed time. In acute cases it may be sufficient to stipulate for a certain number of days: but in chronic cases many months, or even one or two years, may be required. The cancerous mass in Miss Barber's breast was not dissipated by me under five years.* The opacity of the cornea in the case of blindness of twenty-four years standing was not dissipated by the wife of the Archbishop of Dublin in less than two years and a half.† In Miss Bernal's case of extreme debility and agonizing sensitiveness of much of the nervous system with severe neuralgic pains, a year elapsed before she was well; months before there was the least improvement, and I never at all witnessed sleep or any phenomena in her from my daily mesmerisation.‡

It is the same in the treatment of chronic diseases with

* No. XXVIII., p. 232; † No. XXV., p. 84; ‡ No. XVIII., p. 119.

drugs. I have often been obliged to prevail upon my patients suffering from malaria, which will keep up derangement of the system for years, to continue for two or three years the use of quinine in appropriate doses—those which perfectly agree and produce no inconvenience, and yet are the largest that suit the individual. In cutaneous diseases an equally well-regulated course of arsenic is often requisite as long, in order to eradicate the affection. It is the same with iodide of potassium in some diseases: the same with mercury in others: the same with hydrocyanic acid in the liability to stomach complaints, and especially to attacks of severe neuralgic pain, which, without any ground, is continually ascribed to gall-stones, but at length cured without any reason to suppose they ever existed, and is the result of only morbid excitability of the stomach producing acute agony, each attack being followed necessarily by temporary tenderness, and the spasm giving rise necessarily to temporary jaundice, if implicating the gall ducts or their terminations in the intestines. A curative regimen is generally given up long before it has consolidated a cure. An immense number of chronic diseases which might be cured are not cured, because the proper plan which has been commenced is childishly discontinued. With mesmerism this is eminently the unfortunate fact: and I hear hourly of failures which are no failures at all,—no more failures than instruction is a failure if a person gives up the study of a language, of mathematics, or any natural science, as soon as he has acquired a smattering or possibly not even that. Yet people pursue homœopathy patiently for years; go abroad for months or years; keep open issues and setons for years; and take blue pills and draughts for years. The opponents of mesmerism take full advantage of this folly of patients in regard to it for the purpose of disseminating stories of its failure, and thus cause a large neglect of this invaluable boon in nature to suffering man. It may be right to change the mesmeriser for various reasons; and even when the mesmeriser seems healthy and strong, and mesmerises earnestly, kindly, and wisely, to try another after long continuance: it may be right in an acute, or in a chronic case after great perseverance,* to try the effect of more than one, to have relays, or to try the joint effect of more than one at the same moment. But in chronic cases, where the mesmeriser is apparently *quite* unobjectionable, and is known to possess power, perseverance with the same one is often the most judi-

* See my paper on mesmeric disturbances, No. XXVII., pp. 238, 244; No. IX., pp. 49, 50.

cious plan.* Still, when we see no reason for the want of success in a particular mesmeriser, another may be tried for a few times: because occasionally a patient is not affected by one and is affected by another, without any clear reason, though sometimes the opinion of the patient seems the cause, and, when susceptibility has once been induced, the first mesmeriser may succeed perfectly ever afterwards. We ought carefully to impress upon the world that cures are effected without sleep or any other sensible effect.

I affected Master James Salmon the first time; but not to the extent I had affected his brother the first time so many years before. His eyes closed and he went to sleep at the end of half an hour: but no phenomena occurred; his eyes did not half open, his arms did not obey my traction nor did he follow me. His muscles were powerless, and he gave no sign of consciousness on subsequent nights. I produced sleep in fifteen or twenty minutes; but he always awoke spontaneously in five, ten, or fifteen minutes, and in a rigid fit: and he was instantly aroused by the least noise, as by any one coughing or my cockatoo suddenly fluttering his wings or calling, and became rigid but perfectly sensible.† I always sent him to sleep again immediately. I thus mesmerised him three or four times every evening, in order to give him sleep enough. Had I been able to sit always with my hand in his and spoken to no other person, the sleep would probably have lasted a good time and not been so readily disturbed by noises. For he turned out to have a high degree of mesmeric attraction and mesmeric jealousy, and I was not aware of this at that time, as he could not speak nor make any movement of hand or foot for many weeks; and therefore I did not think of his attraction or jealousy, which he might have felt at any rate when his sleep was declining, and thus might have been roused by them; and, if I had discovered them, I should have endeavoured gradually to wean him from such feelings, because they are annoying to the mesmeriser,‡ and prevent him from doing so much good to his patient as he would if he were able to leave the party asleep and were at

* See No. VI., p. 197.

† In the sleep which occurs from mesmeric means before they shew insensibility to pinching and are readily roused by common means, and in very deep mesmeric sleep, there may be unconsciousness, but we are never sure of it; for often occurrences which took place in these instances without any sign of consciousness were occasionally proved at a distant time to have been taken cognizance of without any memory of the patient on waking: and proved in the ordinary waking state, in ordinary dreaming, or in mesmeric, or spontaneous sleep-waking: the impression silently and without the patient's knowledge, manifesting itself at a distant period.

‡ See No. V., p. 52.; No. XI., pp. 356—8.

liberty to occupy himself otherwise. For, unless such sleep is found, or is discovered by the patient in the sleep-waking, to be detrimental, a patient should not be awakened from his sleep, however long it may last.*

* To be aroused from sleep in any circumstances, unless there is a morbid heaviness, is more or less a violence to nature : and particularly in the case of young people, and far above all in the case of children, who require more sleep, and in proportion to their tenderness of age, than the world imagines. Children should never be aroused from sleep, unless for some very great reason. We interfere cruelly with nature in our treatment of children—those holy and heavenly beings who always inspire me with humility, reverence and love, and to whom our duties are so solemn. They ought to sleep out their sleeps, and be awakened by nature only : and be allowed to sleep in the middle of every day till they are five or even six years of age. Parents and nurses little think how much debility and how much peevishness and naughty behaviour are ascribable solely to want of a due amount of sleep, and how much predisposition to disease this occasions. They should be taken into the fresh air once, and if possible twice, a day : care should be taken that they be not over-excited or over-worked, for they are prone to excitement, and they have little power of fixed attention, and to pore long over anything is painful and exhausting to them : care should be taken to let them learn all things easily, and they should never be forced into prodigies of acquirement in reading or anything else : never be allowed stimulating drinks, unless for medical reasons given by a sagacious medical man, nor tea, nor coffee, never any but simple food, simply prepared : some of them should eat no flesh at all, solid or liquified, and none of them while they are very young : none be enticed to eat more than nature dictates to them, or to taste any trash, whether solid or liquid, as a treat on any festive occasion : nor should they be physicked when they are well : they should be washed or bathed all over once or even twice a day with water tepid or cold, according to the season of the year and their strength : they should never be beaten or even slapped, nor scolded sharply, but be spoken with calmly and seriously when they do wrong : and, like grown up persons and the insane, be treated with such firmness as must make resistance hopeless, but a firmness free from asperity and all appearance of anger. Very bad children, bad by nature, but more frequently by very bad management, sometimes require strong measures ; but these should be administered without cruelty or even a sign of irritation ; and with sorrow, though not with the less firmness. No word or deed should they hear or witness that is wrong : not a statement that is not known positively to be true ; not an absurd unintelligible opinion, or a vicious or a silly or superstitious deed. For they naturally and innocently believe all that is told them, and imitate what they see done : and error begun in infancy may endure till extreme old age, producing mischief to the party himself and to others during the whole of this long course.

Between absurd indulgence, severity—and this often when there is no fault and a child's reasons are misunderstood—the absence of firmness, or the substitution of unkindness for it, the neglect of proper food, fresh air, and bathing, and the bad example set them by the adults around them—parents or servants—together with the merciless and irrational medical treatment to which numerous practitioners too often subject them, I do regard children as the beings most to be pitied in the world. Among the very poor, children have no chance : their health, their intellect, their morals, are all the twenty-four hours subjected to the most deleterious influences : and among the highest duties of better-off classes to both the children and the adults of the poor, is that of dissipating poverty by a conscientious alteration of so many absurd and injurious laws which cramp industry and supplies—of producing a disgust of and a discontent with abject poverty and want of comfort—and of exposing the folly of superstition, and the blessedness of rational, manly, and holy views of ourselves, of life, and of our duties to others ; and above all, of the duty of not engendering human beings, when the want of

In about two months he began to shew signs of perception and consciousness during his sleep; to acquire voluntary muscular power; and I led him to speak. At first there was only a motion of his lips; but, by coaxing and encouraging him I brought him to open and shut his mouth, and then, by repeated trials, to speak more and more intelligibly and loudly; and in a few days he spoke perfectly well.

As soon as he could move his extremities, he manifested the *mesmeric attachment* to the mesmeriser and repulsion of others, by trying to seize my hand, and feeling extreme distress if others touched it; and such was his uneasiness if I took my hand from his that I was obliged to remain at his side, or he began whining and grunting, looked very cross and distressed, and extended his arms towards me, or rose from his seat and pursued me; and if another person touched him, or went close to him, he was greatly excited, agonized, and savage, and for many months a fit of rigidity and insensibility resulted. The same occurred if I left the room; and he would, if not prevented, leave it, but not go further than the hall, and when he found his pursuit useless fell into a short coma: and if he did not leave the room my absence, after five or ten minutes, caused him to wake. His mesmeric attachment was accompanied by intense jealousy: so that if I began mesmerising another person, or paid any attention to a patient in the mesmeric sleep—such as attempting to deepen a sleep to remove a pain, his countenance changed, he became very restless, sighed, bit the ends of his fingers, shook one of his legs or feet, and nipped and scratched himself till he could bear it no longer, and came to me, slowly or suddenly, seized my hand, and perhaps put his head on my shoulder, and then frequently fell into a short coma, his head and his hands drooping; and he gave no sign of sensa-

means renders them sure to be born to want and misery. The world is without intermission guilty of heinous sins of commission and omission, and of representing innocent matters as mighty sins; as though the real sins to which we are prone were not numerous enough without the establishment of artificial sins which are no sins at all.

Preachers might render the pulpit a source of immense instruction, were they to give nothing but solid, unquestionable, and useful truths; to mention nothing unintelligible, nothing but what those who run could understand and see the reason of and apply to practice; were they to give a natural and philosophical reason for every virtue and against every vice, since morality is as much a natural science as astronomy. (See *Zoist*, No. X., pp. 131—138; No. XXIX., p. 68.) But the day is not yet in view when this will be; and when good men will be prized above the mystic, the bigot, the pharisee, and the dirty hypocrite; the poor not be huddled together in misery and want so that vice is unavoidable and a large number of human beings necessarily grow up devils; and nations will not sing *To Deums* after the slaughter of their enemies.

tion, consciousness, and volition, beyond what was shewn by the fact of his still standing. On coming out of this coma, he always seized my hand again: and this he invariably did on coming out of the coma, however produced. He would tell me it was unkind of me to attend to others, that he did not like it, that it was very unkind, it was a shame, and I should see if he would bear it any longer. His great happiness was to sit by my side, and perhaps hold my hand; or, if my feet were resting on a chair,* to sit in that chair and touch my shoes or slippers.† If I talked much to even visitors, and neglected him, he would exhibit at last some of the distress he felt when I attended to mesmerised patients. Yet, knowing how all this made him laughed at, he resisted the feelings to the utmost of his power. No one struggled more against any inclination than he did. He would often not tell me for many minutes how uneasy he was; he would keep himself in his chair, or sit down in it again and again after rising to come to me: he would stop half way after he had left his chair: perhaps stop two or three times before he reached me: and, when quizzed about it, laugh and blush, and say it was very odd but he could not help it. If I were sitting alone, doing nothing, reading, writing, or talking to a visitor, or in general conversation with him and other patients or visitors, he would come to me every five or ten minutes, seize one of my hands, squeeze it very hard, let it go, and return to his seat smiling and saying, "Thank'ee, that will do." This satisfied his feelings of attachment for the moment. The harder and longer the squeeze which he gave my hand, the greater and longer was his contentment; and it was harder and longer in proportion to the time since the previous squeeze. This was all the natural working and language of intense friendship, and amused visitors exceedingly who could not at first comprehend why he was rising from his chair, coming across the room, and seizing my hand; and his smiling at his own absurdity rendered the thing far more droll. At first he could not bear to sit away from me; then he bore this, but came to me from time to time; and the intervals between the periods of his feeling impelled to come grew longer and longer, so that now he will come only two or three times in the course of an evening, and not at all if I

* When we are tired, mere sitting refreshes far less than if the legs are supported in the horizontal position at the same time.

† Captain Valiant's nurse, who had an operation performed painlessly upon her jaw, at Chatham, by Dr. Charlton the regimental surgeon, was always contented if the point of her shoe touched her mistress's shoe, or that of any one else who had mesmerised her at the time. See my publication on operations without pain, p. 76; and *Zoist*, No. IX., p. 52.

talk much to him or there is a general conversation in which he partakes; and this will prevent him from falling into coma from time to time, and so again prevent his desire to come and squeeze my hand, for on coming out of each little coma—spontaneous or not, he still always comes to me to squeeze my hand. As the intensity of this feeling gradually lessened to a certain point, and he acquired more and more self-government, did he gradually bear others better. At first he could not bear others to touch his clothing, even to be near him; but at length he was distressed only when others touched his bare hand or face, and could bear them to touch him through his clothes, and to stand close to him; but still he becomes violently excited, and even frightfully rigid and perfectly insensible, and his face ready to burst with fulness of blood, and his breathing arrested, if they persevere in trying to touch his bare hand or face.

If another person instead of myself mesmerised him, he, of course, shewed the same attraction to this person that he had shewn to me, and repelled me as strongly as he repelled strangers when I mesmerised him.

Nay, if I mesmerised one half of him, and another person mesmerised the other half, the half which I mesmerised was attached to me and it repelled others, and the half which the other person had mesmerised was attracted to that person and it repelled me. It was in his brother that I first ascertained the fact of its being possible to mesmerise one half of a person.* I had mesmerised the present patient many months before I tried this experiment upon him, and I thought of it accidentally one evening when I was shewing his case to some friends and had just awakened him. By making passes with a forefinger before one of his eyes, the eye was presently affected and soon closed: the corresponding arm dropped if raised by me, and he had no power over it while the mesmeric state of the half of him was deep: and it and the corresponding half of the face and body bore hard pinching without pain, whereas a slight pinch of the corresponding leg gave unusual pain,—a peculiarity, as I shall soon mention, of his mesmeric state when he was universally mesmerised: the mesmerised half, whether leg, arm, or side of the trunk, could be made perfectly stiff, whereas the unmesmerised half was insusceptible of such an effect, rigidity of any part by long passes with contact being one of the effects of general mesmerism upon him; so, too, by drawing the point of a finger along any part of the mesmerised half of his face, the

* I had another instance of this and mentioned it in No. XII., p. 468.

muscles of the spot could be thrown into strong spasmodic action—as was possible all over his face when he was universally mesmerised, but no such effect was possible on the opposite, unmesmerised half: the hand of the mesmerised half squeezed mine and repelled the touch of every other person; whereas the hand of the unmesmerised half showed indifference if I put mine into it, and no repulsion if another person touched it. Thus one half of him remains mesmerised and the other half unmesmerised. But more could be effected; for, if another person now mesmerised the unmesmerised half by making passes before the eye of this half, this half became insensible except the leg which acquired great sensibility: this half could now be made rigid, and the muscles of this half of the face be thrown into spasmodic contraction: and this half was no longer merely indifferent to me or him, but repelled me and shewed strong attraction to him by seising his hand. Any two persons could thus mesmerise his two halves, and produce those phenomena at pleasure: and by waking him, and each mesmerising the side previously mesmerised by the other, change the relations of the two halves to the two parties; the one side attracting him whom it previously repelled, and repelling him for whom it previously had an attraction. One side could be awakened, and the other left in the mesmeric state. When one side only was mesmerised, its mesmeric state did not at length spread to the other, as, when a cerebral organ of one side is mesmerically excited in sleep-waking, the corresponding organ of the other half also becomes after a time excited.

He had a fondness, as so many have in the mesmeric sleep-waking, to be near or even to hold the hand of, others in the same state, although the contact of every person not in the sleep-waking, except his mesmeriser, occasioned him distress. This attraction may occur equally when there is no repulsion of persons who are not in the mesmeric sleep-waking and no inordinate attraction to the mesmeriser; and sometimes is so strong that the hands can with difficulty be torn from the hands of the other sleep-waker.*

His repulsion and attraction were entirely matters of sentiment, not of sensation. He had no occult or new faculty by which he could distinguish by the touch the hand of his mesmeriser or the hand of those who were in the sleepwaking state. I have recorded instances, and still possess an exquisite instance, of the faculty of distinguishing persons in the sleep-waking state from others; so that if various persons

* See No. VI., pp. 216, 217.

were placed in the same room, some in their ordinary state, some in various degrees of intensity of mesmeric affection, they distinguish the mesmerised from the others. M. A. tells the degree of the intensity of the mesmeric state with perfect accuracy. She never can open her eyes in the least; and, moreover, her accuracy is equally great, if the other parties are completely covered except their hands, and the arrangements are all made before she is taken into the room where they are, and she is led in silence from one person to another. In proportion as the mesmeric state comes on in any patient by the mesmeric process, as ascertained by observation of the countenance and other proofs, she declares its increase as accurately as a thermometer tells an increase of temperature. She is a most delicate mesmerometer. Her hands adhere to every one who is in the mesmeric state. The sensation from them is very agreeable to her; and I have no doubt that this is the reason of the adherence:—that she finds it difficult, and when the mesmeric state is intense, impossible, to will strongly enough to withdraw her hand from the source of so delightful a sensation. She fancies her hand adheres by means of some adhesive substance; and calls this sticky stuff.*

That Mr. J. Salmon has no such occult sense is shewn by it being possible to cheat him. As he cannot open his eyes, it is easy to substitute my hand for that of another person, or the contrary: and to substitute the hand of one in sleep-waking for that of another who is not mesmerised, or the contrary. No matter whose the hand, if he fancies it mine or the hand of one in sleep-waking, he takes and squeezes it; and if he fancies mine or the hand of another in sleep-waking to be the hand of another not in sleep-waking, he angrily repels it. He laughs heartily when his mistake is proved to him: and never pretends to possess an occult sense, or pretends at all, for he is perfectly sincere, and perfectly unaffected, loving true investigation of mesmerism too purely to wish to deceive or run any chance of being deceived. From long and careful observation I know that I can place full reliance upon every mesmeric observation made on him or Mary Anne; and upon every one of their assertions. His brother had a strong propensity to imitate, which he has not, except occasionally: but his brother could imitate only what he noticed by his ordinary senses, whether heard or seen; for his brother, unless in moments of deep sleep, had his

* These phenomena in various cases are detailed in No. V., p. 51; No. VI., pp. 213, 216, 217, 51, 54, 77; No. XI., p. 358; No. IX., p. 53. These four cases deserve the most attentive study, as well as No. III., art. IV., and No. IV., art. VII.

eyes partially open in his mesmeric state, and looked about anxiously after his mesmeriser in order to indulge this propensity. But I have had instances of an occult faculty of knowing what was doing around them though the eyes were firmly closed; and what was done was done behind their chair, so that their eyes, if open, could not have seen; and what was done on the other side of a door or even further off. The elder Okey, at some periods, possessed this faculty in great strength, in addition to the propensity to imitate: so that I have known her in sleep-waking open and shut her mouth and grimace exactly as some one, not necessarily her mesmeriser, did behind her. This strikingly occurred before Professor Bell, the Secretary of the Royal Society, Professor Wheatstone, Dr. Arnott, and others, when Professor Owen, while her eyes were closed, placed himself behind her chair where she could not see him, made, by his peculiar ability to twist up one side of his nose, such a face as no one else can make, and, on retiring from his position behind her and asking what she had done, for those who watched her could not watch him and *vice versa*, and being told that she had made such a grimace, declared himself satisfied, since he had made precisely that grimace and he had never met with any one before who could make it.* This attraction and repulsion, or the propensity to imitate, may exist separately from, or in conjunction with, occult faculties of discernment.

* No. II., p. 190. In a wonderful instance of occult powers, in which the right hand attracted my right hand, and the left attracted my left, and the repulsion was converse, the occult faculty distinguished each of my two hands from the other, for I rendered all ordinary means of knowledge impossible, and it learnt when I touched another person, and exhibited jealousy by dropping my hand as soon as I touched another person. The astounding facts are detailed in No. V., p. 53; No. IX., p. 53. "I have one who, though always in a silent sleep without speaking, becomes uncomfortable and wakes if I cease to hold his hand; and will not bear the touch of a stranger, nor the contact of metals previously touched by another; and, though he often grasps my hand, he lets it go if I converse with or touch others; nay, each half of his brain experiences affection distinctly; for he often grasps one of my hands with one of his while the other continues perfectly indifferent. When both halves of his brain are experiencing affection, his right half has an affection for only my right half and his left for my left, as shewn by his grasping my right with his right and taking no notice of it with his left, and my left with his left, but taking no notice of it with his right; nay, by his withdrawing his right angrily from my left if I touch it with my left, and his left from my right if I touch it with my right; and, what is more wonderful, his right hand will not endure the contact of gold first held in my left hand or his left hand, nor his left endure the contact of gold first held in my right hand or his right hand. If, while his hands are grasping each of my corresponding hands, another person touches me anywhere, or if I bring my two hands in contact at the smallest point, the end of a finger for example, he lets go my hands with angry indifference. All this I may remark happens equally when such care is taken as to render his seeing or discerning by any of the five ordinary senses what is done absolutely impossible."

He did not possess any degree of extraordinary powers, not that common degree of clairvoyance which his brother possessed relatively to his own disease, and could give me no information as to its course or cure. Yet he exhibited many peculiarities in regard to ordinary phenomena.

Though he felt resistance and contact perfectly well, it was difficult to give him any pain by mechanical means, pinching, pricking, &c., at any part above his hips. This partial anæsthesia, if anæsthesia it can be called when contact and pressure can be felt, I have noticed in other cases and fully detailed.* But there was more than a limitation of anæsthesia in his case: his lower extremities were exquisitely sensible to pain from mechanical causes, so that a pinch at any part of them that he bore patiently in his ordinary state or in his unmesmerised half if only half of him was mesmerised, gave him intolerable pain if perpetrated on them when in sleep-waking. His sensitive legs could be rendered temporarily insensible to pain from mechanical causes by long contact-passes, just like the face of Mary Ann.† Again, though such was his anæsthesia, his sensibility of temperature was unchanged. The parts which would not bear pinching, would not bear a cold or a very hot substance: he was as sensible to temperature as ever; and his legs and arms shewed no difference in this respect.‡

He had some peculiarities in regard to other ordinary phenomena. Any part could be stiffened by ordinary long contact-passes. But the stiffness was intense, and if the passes were made briskly was excruciatingly painful. He would always cry out and implore me or others to make them more slowly if our hands moved quickly. By passes along his arms or legs, these became like bars; down his back, he was bent backwards, and altogether according to the portion on which the passes were made: and there he stood or sat like a statue. He could not endure this to be done at the

* See the striking facts detailed by me, No. VI., p. 210; No. IX., p. 59; No. XII., 452; and my *Physiology*, in which I describe much of the cases of the Okeys, and all my observations on mesmerism up to a certain time.

† See No. VII., p. 388. Though she could have suffered any operation painlessly below her collar bone, I had always to make long contact passes on her face to prevent the pain of tooth extractions: and in proportion to the duration of the passes was the depth of her local anæsthesia, which extended first to the outer part of the cheeks only, then to the inner, then to the outer part of her gums of the side passed upon, and finally to the inner part of the gums: and lasted in proportion to the duration of the passes; and sensibility returned in the opposite order of parts to that of the invasion of insensibility.

‡ These phenomena I noticed some years ago and described in former *Zoiste*, and no antimesmerist would believe me; yet now they are acknowledged, as chloroform may produce them. See No. XVI., p. 576; No. XVII., p. 44; No. XXI., p. 5.

back of his neck and head. Of course a hand or a single finger could be stiffened in the same way; and every part could be stiffened into extension or flexion,* accordingly as the passes were made down, outside or inside of, the part, or up it on its inside. When great stiffening of the back or extremities was produced, it did not last long, and soon ended in complete relaxation and deep coma, so that he more or less drooped and snored loudly, and then came into his active sleep-waking state again with sighs and the clicking noise already mentioned, and almost invariably put out his arm to me, and if he could not find me went about after me, miserable till he got hold of my hand: and if I eluded him he would be grieved and vexed, and drop into deep coma again; return from it and repeat all the same phenomena: and so on repeatedly till perhaps he awoke. The occurrence of coma after great muscular rigidity, or careful muscular movements, or when the accomplishment of any effort or wish proved impossible, I noticed originally in the Okeys; and of course it was imposition in them, though it has now been observed in endless cases.†

There was more than the amazing and painful intensity of rigidity in him, and its short duration when so intense: for if a knee or elbow was grasped, the extremity all became rigid.

If I drew the point of one or more of my fingers along the inside of his palm, at the roots of his fingers, his hand immediately closed violently; if along the corresponding part of the back of the hand, it instantly flew open as rigidly; and so with any individual finger.

The effect of a similar proceeding on any part of the face was to induce almost any grimace at pleasure. By passing the fingers along either side of it outwards, the features were drawn strongly towards the ear of that side; if upwards, the features on that side were drawn upwards; if downwards, they descended; if the hand was drawn along both sides, all the features were drawn. I could draw the mouth into any shape; set it open, or close it firmly; wrinkle the forehead, turn up the nose, draw up all the features, and set his head upwards; or make his face long, and set his head downwards. If his tongue were put out, a few passes over it without contact fixed it; I could fix it to one side, fix it with its tip curled up or drawn down; fix either lip drawn up or down; or by squeezing his nose between my finger and thumb close his

* For the absurdity of an antimeasmerist, a son of the late Archbishop of York, because, when I made long passes to stiffen Rosina's arms and not her fingers, her fingers did not become stiff, see No. VI., p. 206.

† No. III., p. 325.

nostrils, so that an indentation appeared on each side of his nose and he could speak through his nose only, to use common, but very incorrect, language, as though he had a violent cold, to our great amusement. The grimaces thus induced were not only most various, but might be induced with marvellous rapidity; the muscles already contracted relaxing instantly when their relaxation was necessary to the contraction attempted upon their antagonists. Yet I could never thus make either eye open; and for this reason. In sleep the eye, when closed, is actively, spasmodically, closed, and not shut from relaxation of muscles, as the arms and hands drop. This fact,—that the orbicular muscle which closes the eye is in a state of high activity in sleep,—I mentioned at length a few years ago.*

These effects upon his face reminded us of figures made of gutta percha, whose faces we can pull into grimace.

As I could stiffen one or more limbs or fingers in any position at the same time that I stiffened his features into a grimace, his whole appearance might be rendered irresistibly laughable.

These contractions of his face soon ceased, and, when considerable, were followed by immediate relaxation of his frame and sound sleep, like the stiffening of his limbs and body; and he soon came again out of his sleep, sighing, and clicking, and grunting, and feeling for me; and having squeezed my hand, and perhaps said "thank'ee," resumed his seat, and chatted as before.

Relaxation could not be induced by touching his bare hand or face; nor by transverse passes, except over the elbow-joints in rigidity of the arms, and over the knees in rigidity of the legs. He enjoyed the slow stiffening of his limbs or back by passes made from the summit to the end of their length, saying, "Oh, that's very nice;" but rapid passes produced such violent and rapid contraction as made him cry out and beg me to desist, even at the time when his surface bore pinching and other mechanical causes of pain without feeling; and I dare say the muscles, though drawn to spasmodic contraction, would have presented insensibility to cutting. This probability is consistent with the fact of a part insensible to mechanical causes of pain being fully sensible to heat and cold, to contact and pressure, and to tickling. The very parts which I could pinch without giving pain could not, even at that moment, bear tickling. The same was the fact in the lady whose breast was painlessly

* No. IX., p. 45; No. VI., p. 208.

cut away two and twenty years ago in Paris, by M. Cloquet; she had no pain from the knife, but fell into loud laughter from the sponge and its warm water, used to remove the blood, tickling her. See my pamphlet on *Surgical Operations without Pain*, p. 81.

These spasmodic contractions of his muscles seemed all voluntary, though irresistible. He evidently willed them, but was forced to will them,—the inclination to will them could not be overcome by him. In the same way a ticklish person cannot help writhing, calling out, laughing, all with his voluntary muscles, when tickled: or a child withdraw its hand if this is touched with something burning hot. There is every degree of will, from apparent perfectly free will, that is, where the will is not intensely excited and motives for more than one action are operating,—motives nearly balanced, though that which acts the most forcibly forces the will, and thus the will in every case acts successfully, like every other power in nature, however weak in a particular instance and however almost balanced by other powers, when it does act successfully, from absolute necessity (philosophical necessity being an evident truth),*—up to the most evidently involuntary, irresistible will, when but one inclination exists or one incalculably more forcible than any other inclination. In chorea all allow the incessant movements are a little voluntary; and yet no patient can cure his disease by his will,—nor will strongly enough to be quiet. It is the same with all convulsive diseases, with crying, and with every voluntary action. The will may be so compelled that its exertion in a certain direction is manifestly involuntary, and indeed that all signs of volition are lost; and the action runs insensibly into the class of spontaneous, automatic, involuntary actions, as in severe coughing, in sneezing, and in the outward expression of any emotion:† though we may will without being aware of it, just as various mental operations may go on unconsciously.‡

The exertion of the will was often evidenced by his seeming puzzled what to do, and correcting himself. If I attempted rapidly to excite him to opposite movements of a part, he would sometimes make a mistake and correct himself,—a thing noticed in various phenomena of evidently

* See my remarks on Necessity and Free-will, No. XII., p. 418.

† No. V., p. 70; No. II., p. 189. In catalepsy there does not appear any degree of volition, even obscured by compulsion: and I formerly could discover none in rigidity; but certainly discovered it in the present case when produced by passes, though not when produced by gold.

‡ No. V., p. 70; No. VI., p. 211; No. XI., p. 362.

irresistible will, such as a disposition to imitate* or to obey.†

Tractive passes without contact had no effect upon him, as he had no occult sense, and his eyes were firmly closed. Once or twice very lately, from some disturbing cause, his eyes opened for a few minutes, but they were motionless, and he declared he could see nothing: and I am sure that he could not.

Traction seems the result of a disposition to obey.‡ Yet, unlike his brother, he in no other way shewed an irresistible disposition to obey, or at least to verify what I said, by doing, like some of my patients, what I said he would do;§ nor did he ordinarily shew a disposition to imitate. When his legs were rigid, their sensibility was still acute: whereas in some persons the production of rigidity occasions the simultaneous loss of sensibility to mechanical causes of pain. For some months the contact of gold caused intense and instant rigidity,|| as it did in the Okeys and in his brother. But suddenly this ceased, and he became subject to paroxysms of involuntary and incessant imitation of all he heard, as I shall presently mention: and the susceptibility of rigidity from gold has never returned. No other metal or substance, liquid or solid, mesmerised or unmesmerised, causes any effect upon him,—another point in which his case differed from that of his brother. But he has a remarkable pleasure from rough bodies, whatever they be. Smooth substances he dislikes. So that if I place an ivory paper-cutter with a rough carved handle in his hand, he rejects the smooth portion, and revels in pressing and twirling about the rough handle and does not readily allow it to be taken from him.

In his sleep-waking he is subject to paroxysms of four kinds of cerebral excitement,—ungovernable affection, pride and anger, imitation, and mirth. Yet he is insusceptible of excitement of any cerebral organ by pointing to it, or touching over it. This is the more worthy of notice, because every time he has been mesmerised a patient has been in the room, various of whose cerebral organs are most readily excited by touching over them. When a paroxysm of pride and rage or imitation occurs, it is usually preceded by restlessness, a distressed state, and perhaps violent and general itching and tingling: and generally terminates in deep sleep. The paroxysm of pride and anger is invariably followed by one of in-

* No. II., p. 188; No. III., p. 317.

† No. V., p. 58.

‡ No. V., p. 59; No. VI., pp. 208, 214. § No. IV., pp. 434—6, 316—17.

|| See an account of the effects of gold, and of mesmeric rigidity in general, and some interesting portions of the cases of the Okeys, and Mr. Wakley's obtuseness or something worse, in No. V., pp. 63—71.



THE PHYSIOLOGY OF THE BRAIN.



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tense affection to his mesmeriser, in which he expresses great regret at his previous conduct: he wakes up into this from the coma which follows the paroxysm of pride and anger. The paroxysm of affection goes off without sleep, and after a sigh or two he smiles and is quite ashamed at having been so childishly affectionate, squeezes his mesmeriser's hand, and returns to his seat retaining his ordinary degree only of mesmeric attachment. Sometimes the paroxysm of affection is not preceded by one of pride and rage.

As the paroxysm of pride and rage is invariably followed by one of intense affection, so it may be produced at any time by plaguing him and disparaging him: and the readiest way to this is to call him a fish, and urge that he is a fish by saying that his name proves it. He will sometimes make a great effort not to be angry, but always at length finds resistance impossible, and then flies into a violent fury, abusing every body who speaks to him, smiling with supreme contempt when not at the height of violence, and holding every body in the world very cheap. This was discovered by accident, when, in the merry conversations of my sleep-waker and my friends, we happened to quiz him about his name, little thinking he would take it seriously amiss. There is no other mode of putting him out of humour, except by strongly rousing his jealousy; and this never fails. When the paroxysm is over, he laughs as heartily at it as he does at the paroxysm of affection. The paroxysm of imitation occurs if he is generally excited by merry conversation, or has been excited by a paroxysm of pride and rage. He then readily falls into an irresistible and continued state of imitating. He answers no questions, but repeats the question; whatever his mesmeriser or any other person says, he says; whatever noise is made, he makes it. He is always very happy in the paroxysm: always has a smile on his countenance: and usually comes close to me, so that his happiness is complete. He has no increase of his power of hearing or of attending, and consequently his imitation of a foreign language is not very accurate: he has the simple propensity to imitate: and such pleasure does its gratification give him, that, when we preserve silence, he assumes the attitude of carefully listening and does listen most attentively for some sound to imitate, and begins imitating the ticking of an exceedingly small Vienna clock which stands upon my table. If the words we utter or the noise we make lead him to suppose we perform certain actions at the time, he imitates this supposed action; for instance, bowing, or shaking the head. It is impossible to stop him unless by closing his mouth with passes, by drawing his lips together,

and then he makes sounds as nearly like the words as possible—still does his best to imitate.

We can produce rigidity of any part as readily in any of these paroxysms as in his ordinary mesmeric state: and the anæsthesia above his hips, and the morbid sensibility of his lower extremities, continue in them all. When he returns to his ordinary mesmeric state, he tells me that I ought to have stopped his mouth by passes and not allowed him to go on talking as he did, since I knew that he could not help it. His pride and anger in their paroxysm continue equally unabated as imitation in its paroxysm, when he is stiffened all over and his mouth shut up: and his abortive efforts to indulge the respective propensities are remarkable. The paroxysms appear to end the sooner if he is thus prevented from indulging his propensities.

I have never been able to induce in him the very common phenomenon of fulfilling on returning to the natural condition a promise made in the sleep-waking. Those who wish to study this phenomenon may peruse the account of my numerous experiments on different patients in the history of Miss Collins's case.* My attempts with him have been numerous. I obtained the promises from him of the most simple and easy actions immediately before waking him, and the fulfilment was to take place immediately after his waking. But not the least duration of impression have I ever made upon his brain: and yet another patient always in the same room, she in whom the cerebral organs can always be so readily excited mesmerically, can be invariably influenced in this way, and to very complicated and very numerous results.

In every case of sleep-waking that I have witnessed there has been a slight deviation from the usual condition of the cerebral functions, very slight or very considerable;† and it has in the majority lessened gradually if sleep-waking was very frequently induced through a long period. The Okeys, from being absolutely wild in their sleep-waking and remarkable in many particulars, became at length so reasonable and well-conducted that strangers had some difficulty to discover any peculiarity in them. So Mr. James Salmon now approaches in his sleep-waking far nearer to his ordinary state than formerly. He is much less jealous, and bears my absence from the room much better, is seldomer excited into one of his four kinds of paroxysms, or in any way: and addresses persons as Sir and Ma'am. His intellect is as perfect as

* No. XI., pp. 362—379.

† See my *Numerous Cases of Surgical Operations, &c.*, pp. 35—38, 42—44, and *Zoist*, No. III., p. 323; No. IV., 409.

when he is awake, and was, I believe, from the first: but his feelings have made great advances to their natural condition.

An idiosyncrasy, discovered accidentally like the rest in this case, was that of the pressure of the points of his fingers, especially of the middle finger, of either hand, against either of my palms, rendering his upper extremities and his trunk and neck instantly rigid, the latter and his head inclining backwards: and the rigidity was greater in proportion as he pressed his fingers the more forcibly. The effect, however, thus produced was never strong enough to give him pain, as it might be when produced by brisk passes down his back, but always afforded him pleasure. The pressure of his fingers against the back of my hand, or against any other part of me, had no such effect.

I may here mention that contact-passes up his extremities, or up his back or front, or his face, occasioned him great discomfort, and a sensation of coldness at the parts and of "going the wrong way." As there are endless modifications of all the established phenomena in different cases, so there are endless idiosyncrasies in the susceptibility of impressions from different agents. Neither powerful magnets nor large crystals had any effect upon him. A rough crystal he loved, because of its roughness,* but to touch the smooth surface of a large crystal was unpleasant to him. He never saw light from them in his natural state when placed in a dark room: nor in his sleep-waking, as his eyes were closed.

A beautiful experiment, which may be made upon most other sleep-wakers, exhibited the soporific power of the mesmeric agency, and the phenomena of the invasion and decline of sleep, so exquisitely, that every good poet, actor and physiologist should witness it.† I thirteen years ago found that the eyes, independently of their vision, were among the most mesmerically-susceptible parts and best conveyers of the influence to the rest of the system. The more widely Elizabeth Okey opened her eyes, not to gaze upon me, but upon the ceiling, in which upward-action more of the eyes is exposed than in any other gaze, and especially if I pulled the lower lid down, the effect of passes with the hand or finger before the face was considerably increased. This led me to try the effect of placing the finger on the closed eyelids at the centre: and also to try the effect of gold-upon the exposed eye. The effects were, as I anticipated, very great. I have since habitually deepened mesmeric sleep in sleep-wakers by placing the point of a finger upon each eye: and the result has been just

* See p. 186.

† See No. II., p. 176.

as great at the first trial as afterwards, and when the patients had no idea of what I intended. If the points of two fingers were placed in his sleep-waking upon the upper lid over the central and most prominent part of the eye, and pressed a little firmly, his head presently dropped, and his arms hung powerless at his sides: he next breathed heavily: his chin fell quite upon his chest, his knees began to bend, and his trunk to incline forwards: his knees bent more and more till the back part of his thighs touched his calves, and approached his heels, and he snored; sustaining himself in what to a person awake would be a painful posture,—just as by long contact-passes I could stiffen his middle, ring, and little fingers into various relative states of flexion and extension that were impossible to him when awake.

If I removed my fingers from his eyes he rose gradually from this posture, his trunk grew straight, his head rose, and he ceased to snore: and, if I replaced my fingers, the first order of changes were repeated: and thus I could have him up or down at pleasure. When he was very low, if I continued my fingers on the eyes, he at length fell upon the floor and generally rolled over on his side; and, what was curious, his knees remained bent, and his feet therefore above the ground: and, if I removed my fingers, he slowly awoke to the ordinary active sleep-waking state, and arose wondering how he had got upon the floor: but, if I replaced my fingers on his eyes, his legs fell, his knees were no longer bent, his feet went to the ground, and he was a powerless relaxed mass upon the floor in a dead sleep, and might be pushed and rolled in any direction without noticing it. The respiration and heart's action continued; whereas in exhibiting chloroform, if the application of it is persevered with, the respiration at length ceases, and presently the heart's action, and the patient dies. But no such result has ever happened from the coma of mesmerism: nor is it likely, however long the fingers be kept on the eyes, or deep the coma be otherwise rendered; because, in deeply mesmerising a patient, the system seems at length to resist any further effect, and the sleep often breaks up in the midst of mesmerism.*

* I made the following observations in No. VI., p. 235:—"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

The production and removal of sleep in my patient was peculiar. The phenomena of its increase and cessation are various in different persons.* If slow downward passes were

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; and then have no particular effect 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; 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.

"So strong is the occult soporific power in the animal frame, that I find it sometimes impossible to wake some patients who have a propensity to grasp my hand, unless I prevent this, and even keep them at as great a distance from me as possible. The present patient could not be awakened by any means I ever adopted. My only method was to remove as far from her as she would allow me, and retire more and more accordingly as she bore my absence better: and not only this, but to keep all others as far from her as possible. At one period she was no sooner asleep than she awoke, even though my finger-points were on her eyes; and required to be sent off repeatedly before the sleep acquired any depth: occasionally she would sleep for many hours."

I am happy to be able to refer to these remarks printed seven years ago from my experience thirteen years ago; for it is absolutely ludicrous to find medical gentlemen in Edinburgh and other places, who have scorned to give any attention to the mesmeric facts with which so many of us have been familiar for above a dozen years, and who have stigmatized all who asserted these facts, now condescending to attend to the subject and admit more or less of it, and giving to the world their crudities, their doubts and admissions, just as green medical students after having heard a few lectures on chemistry declare to their fellow students that they doubt this and that, and see this and that in quite a different view from the laborious teachers who have spent their lives in the study. It is still more amusing to see Dr. Gregory expressing his trust that now, as *such men* are attending to the subject, light will at length be thrown upon it,—men who have now slightly attended to it in consequence of some public exhibitions, under the absurd name of electro-biology or electro-psychology, of facts familiar to all mesmerists, and now presented to the world by mesmerists in a manner not the most admired by gentlemen. The phenomena are the result of imagination (see my remarks, No. IV., p. 440) excited by suggestion, and sometimes probably also by will, and in persons sometimes a little mesmerised by staring, passes, and contact. The word mesmerism has generally been avoided, and its share sometimes altogether denied in public, though not in private. Even the influence of suggestion and will has not been mentioned, and great mystery has been affected. Nay, more; the secret has been sold to some for a few pounds. Contact and pressure of certain parts of the head were the secret sold by some: pressure of the back of the head with the thumb, and of the palm with the fingers, was the secret sold by others: and each purchaser believed he had secured the real thing. These are all means of impressing the patient's mind. The pretence of influence from two metals stared at is another disgusting part of the affair.

* No. IV., p. 342; V., p. 48—50; VI., p. 234.

made before his face, he soon began to advance his head, and then at every pass to incline it a little; to stare fixedly straight forwards, and to follow the motions of the hand when they were a little to one side; if the hand moved upwards, his head rose and his eyes turned up, and he made a sign with his hands to direct me to raise my hand at one side of him and not before him, because this upward movement of my hand distressed him. As a general rule in mesmerising, the hand after a downward pass should be raised again at one side and not in front of the patient. His eyes would at last converge and then close; his head drop; and his body bend over to one side with one or both legs raised from the ground by this attitude: but, though strangers thought he would fall, he never fell; so strong was he and so nicely sensible was he of the point at which he would lose his balance.†

If, instead of passes, I pointed only to his eyes, their convergence was extreme: they became each fixed as close as possible to the nose, and so remained, every bystander declaring that it would be impossible for any person in his ordinary state to do anything like it: and, after a time his eyes closed, and sleep declared itself as when he was mesmerised with passes. He might be readily sent off by merely placing the points of a finger upon each eye: and, knowing what I wished, he would fix my fingers himself exactly on the cornea and press them firmly, finding that he thus went to sleep the sooner.

I could send him to sleep by merely staring at him: but this method was very tedious. From the depth of his sleep—and except when produced by the points of my fingers on his eyes it was never so deep as to cause him to fall, whether sitting or standing—he emerged by raising his head and body, clicking and sighing, and, as soon as he was in active sleep-waking, able to know and talk, he felt for me and made after me to seize my hand.

The waking him was always a most troublesome and to strangers a very unpleasant process. In some persons the difficulty arises from their great sleepiness, so that the presence of two or three near them prevents it, and we are obliged to put all others out of the room, or remove the patient to a distant part or to another room, when perhaps he will awake spontaneously.‡ Sometimes they are so sleepy that contact-transverse-outward passes with the thumbs or

† See the remarkable case in No. V., pp. 49—58; also No. III., p. 324.

‡ No. VI., p. 235.

fingers on the eyebrows deepens the sleep more than the movement dissipates it, and the transverse passes are fruitless except made without contact. But the difficulty with this patient arose from his unwillingness to awake. If it were late, he would ask me to awake him; and yet, when I began, he was desirous not to be awakened, and resisted violently. The first transverse pass before him made him close his lips and pout them forth, contract his shoulders against his trunk, raise his body in violent anger, and utter a sort of screaming grunt: every fresh pass, and every puff of my breath in his face, aggravated all this, and at last he so resisted, crumpled up and frowning, and his mouth tightly shut, that no pass or puff had any effect. Then he would relax and speak, and abuse me for attempting to wake him. Then he might recover his command over himself, and beg me to press my hand upon his stomach, which always relieved a distressing feeling which the attempt to awaken him occasioned. He often pressed upon it himself. At length he opened his mouth widely: and, after opening it two or three times, he opened it at last very widely, as if he was going to swallow a horse,* and in an instant opened his eyes and was wide awake, calm and smiling and happy,—shewing such an instantaneous change from fury and distress to perfect happiness as astonished everybody.†

I need not say that he was now as strong as he was happy: all the stronger the longer he had been kept asleep:‡ the more intensely and the longer he had been stiffened and put into all sorts of apparently painful, and to a stranger perhaps up to that moment improbable, attitudes.

He has long been perfectly well. The last convulsive fit occurred a year and a quarter ago: and it is nearly a year since he had even a little rigid attack. If he sees any person suddenly, or is noticed by any person, hears music, even a brass band, or receives any unexpected intelligence, it has no more effect upon him than upon other people; he can bear a strong light, can read, and write at any length: whereas formerly any of these things gave him a stiff fit or severe headache. The attempt to look at paper while he wrote his own name always induced such a fit. So did fatigue; and very

* On coming out of his deep coma into the active sleep-waking state during his mesmeric state, this opening of the mouth was always observed, and in proportion to the depth of his coma.

† No. V., pp. 61, 62.

‡ On the utility of allowing patients to wake spontaneously, see No. III., p. 310; No. IX., p. 41; No. XI., p. 357; No. XVI., p. 471; and on the utility of stiffening and exciting them in the sleep-waking, see No. IX., p. 60.

little fatigued him. He often dropped down from fatigue, and could walk no further. He has ceased to suffer from the weather. Before he was cured, every change of weather affected him: and he was never so well in hot as in cold weather, and was much better in a cold strong wind and for being out of doors. He is no longer troubled with attacks of flatulence, low spirits, palpitation, fulness of the head, or giddiness. The painful weakness of his back has left him: and this had been a great torment. When I was absent for five weeks in Switzerland at the end of autumn, he was not mesmerized regularly at home, and again grew weaker and generally worse: but I soon set him up again on my return.

After some months he was mesmerised but three times a week: then seldomer. But I beg him to come now and then even at present: so important is it not to leave off mesmerism as soon as a patient is cured. Unlike his brother, he is as susceptible as ever. But he likes mesmerism: and I may add that he advocates it on all occasions and before all people: subscribed from his own pocket to the Mesmeric Infirmary before the end of last year, and paid a second subscription, not at the end of twelve months, but soon after the new year began.

The importance of warmth in mesmerising was manifested in him. For if the room was cold, he was never so easily affected. This point should always be attended to, and not only the room and the mesmeriser's hands be warm, but no mesmeriser be employed who has not naturally a warm, and perhaps a pretty fleshy, hand. Probably the heat has much to do with the apparently greater facility of producing mesmeric effects on persons in warm climates. There has not been any proof that this arises from a greater natural susceptibility of inhabitants of hot countries. When there were currents of cool air in the rooms, Dr. Esdaile's patients could not readily be affected.* This observation we had always made here: and for want of a knowledge of the fact disappointment may occur.

The mesmeric phenomena in the two brothers, though on the whole similar, were differently modified: just like those of the two sisters Okey.† Permanent and striking differences existed in the two sisters and the two brothers: and yet so superficial an observer as Mr. Wakley, a man at the same time perfectly ignorant of the whole subject and not yet known to be capable of the least scientific investigation, did not hesitate to take upon himself to proclaim opinions upon it to the world and lead the medical profession, and call the one sister an imperfect imitation of the other. The sooner

* No. XXI., pp. 2—8.

† See my *Physiology*, pp. 1164—1170.

he makes a turn right round the better for his credit and the sale of his *Lancet*. A comparison of the phenomena of the two brothers is worth the trouble.

I must not close this narrative without mentioning the praiseworthy conduct of my patient's former physician. When called upon by Mr. James Salmon since the cure, he expressed great satisfaction, behaved most kindly, and sent a polite message to me, though I am not aware of having ever seen him; and he sent a letter of introduction to me, a few months ago, with a medical gentleman, whose sister he informed me he had been treating in vain for epilepsy and had no hope of curing, but whom all parties now wished to be mesmerised. It is a great pleasure to me to record good conduct, and painful when, in justice to the sacred cause of mesmerism and to my own character, I have to expose bad conduct and bestow censure.

JOHN ELLIOTSON.

87, Conduit St., Hanover Sq., June, 1851.

VIII. *Cure of Paralysis.* By Mr. WAGSTAFF, Surgeon, Leighton Buzzard.

"And while the age has brought to light myriads of things unknown before, to teach and benefit mankind, others have been, as it were, re-discovered: knowledge that has slept for ages has been again awakened into life, whether for use or mis-use, can as yet be hardly known; but before the half-century just commenced has waned, the secret will be told; and the discovery be as well appreciated *then* as many things are now, of which human knowledge first took note in or since the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred.

"Among the rediscoveries, is the mystery unfolded in the persons of some who, by a steadfast look—a wave of the hand—control the will of another, and make a man a mere machine; for, however much quackery and falsehood may have essayed of imposition and collusion, that certain persons do possess this power, and certain others are amenable to it, seems to have been in many cases demonstrated.

"For lack of happier nomenclature, we have called this process '*mesmerism*,' and its reproduction has afforded some of the most striking incidents of the century. We say reproduction, for its own disciples are the readiest to concede that its powers were known in earlier ages, and used for the purposes of false religion, and the maintenance of priestly power."—*Morning Post*, New Year's Day, 1851.

I WAS called to see Mrs. Odell on the 17th of Nov. 1850. I found her suffering from paralysis of the whole voluntary muscular system to some extent, but more especially of the right upper and lower extremities. She was quite conscious, but unable to move or to open her eyes, or even to speak except in a whisper. She complained of a great deal of pain in her back: and from the symptoms I considered she was suffering from some affection of the spinal chord. On consulting Mrs. Wagstaff on the case,* she told me that there was

* Mrs. Wagstaff is a clairvoyante as to disease.—*Zoist*.

paralysis of the muscular system of nerves, from want of tone or sudden cessation of tone in the parts of the chord that supplied the motor power to the muscles of the trunk and extremities: that the brain was not affected: and that it was not from inflammatory action.

I attended her for about six weeks, up to Jan. 1, 1851, without apparent benefit, beyond restoring the power of speech.

She went from my care to the Union medical man, Mr. Williams, I believe, who I am informed saw her once and sent his assistant once. Mr. Williams saw her, I heard, about Jan. 28, 1851, and his assistant about Feb. 18, 1851. I did not see her again until Feb. 26. On that day the husband requested me to see her once more to satisfy her. I had not at this time thought of mesmerising her, as I considered the case quite hopeless. When I saw her this time she had crawled to her sister's, a distance of some fifteen or twenty yards. She then had complete paralysis of the right arm and hand: the limb being contracted and held across her chest: she could only use the right leg by drawing it after her along the ground, being quite unable to raise it or support herself on it. She managed to move by means of a stick and an assistant, but was otherwise quite helpless. She had, moreover, constant shaking of the right leg and foot. I tried to mesmerise her on this day by making passes down the spine: but without producing any perceptible change. I saw her again on the 29th (Saturday) and endeavoured to put her to sleep; and, after some twenty-five or thirty minutes, I found her in a deep sleep and quite unconscious. I let her sleep some little time and then awoke her; and found considerable difficulty in so doing. When she awoke she complained that we had been doing something to her arm; that it felt, as she called it, "all pins and needles." However, she could feel with the arm and hand and could move it a little.* I mesmerised her to sleep every second day until the following Saturday or Sunday: at the end of the fourth sleep (I sometimes left her asleep for four or five hours) she could use the right arm as well as the left, and the jerking of the leg had quite subsided.

She cut some bread and butter with the right arm and hand after the second sleep. The lameness was nearly gone after the seventh or eighth sleep, after which time I did not see her for three weeks. She had not improved at all during these three weeks: but had rather retrograded. I recommenced the sleep, and she improved again: so that she became, and now is, quite well. About ten days since, in

* The superiority of general to local mesmerism was striking.—*Zoist*.

consequence of getting cold she had severe lumbago, so that she neither slept nor even lay down for several days. When sent for to see her, I could scarcely get her to bed. I put her into the sleep and left her: and, when she awoke she was free from pain, and is this day quite well.

During all this time she took no medicine, except a little oxymel for her cough, and only a few doses of that. I think, taking all the circumstances of the case into consideration, that Mrs. Wagstaff's opinion is quite borne out in the case.

P. W. WAGSTAFF.

June 7, 1851.

IX. *Cure of Paralysis.* By Mr. W. R. MORT, Surgeon,
Devonshire Place, Brighton.

"We lately animadverted on the indecent and scurrilous tone of the editor of the *Lancet*, when men and things did not square themselves according to his ideas of their eternal fitness.

"The editor of the *Medical Times* also belongs to the square school of philosophy; and not only holds up the men who dare think and act for themselves to professional reprobation, but endeavours, like a Dominican friar, to draw down upon their heads public execration and persecution by nick-naming them *infidels* and *atheists*. We see numerous *Jeremiads* in the medical periodicals about 'the degradation of the medical profession, and the low estimation it is held in by the public.' But a profession is what its professors make it; and we should like to know how our respect is to be secured by the coarse and slanderous manner and language of the *Lancet* and *Medical Times*. Their policy is, of course, to please the majority of their readers; and to judge from the mental food provided for them, they must be filled with 'envy, hatred, and all uncharitableness' towards each other, and be enemies of all freedom of thought, word, and action. Forming our opinion of the tone of the medical profession from their pretended leaders, the *Lancet* and *Medical Times*, we would consider it a greater honour to belong to the ancient fraternity of barbers than to be a member of the College of Surgeons or Physicians. But this would be as gross a slander upon the profession as any uttered by these scurrilous papers against the honest, talented, and courageous men who fortunately, every now and then, arise to declare and advocate new truths to the consternation of successful routinists and schools thriving on 'the wisdom of their ancestors,'—the scrapers and polishers of dead men's bones, which they cherish like pieces of the true cross, because they live by them. It is in vain to demonstrate to these idolatrous worshippers of the past that each of them cannot be in possession of a piece of the true cross, as they have enough wood among them to crucify all the disturbers of their faith upon. The greater is the miracle, is their reply:—'*credo, quia impossibile*.' Whenever the preachers of new truths have boldly declared them, the same horrid howl of 'crucify them! crucify them!' has been raised, whether it were in Jerusalem, Paris, London, or Calcutta. Wherever a new and truer faith has been taught, whether in religion or medicine, there have ever been doctors in theology and physic to cry, 'Not this man, but Barabbas!'

"These remarks have been elicited from us by reading a so-called review of the eighth volume of *The Zoist* in the *Medical Times*, of which the following is the exordium:—

"We have given the title of *The Zoist* exactly as it appears on the wrapper of the July number,—a title remarkable for its unparalleled presumption and unblushing effrontery. Under the mask of "cerebral physiology" we have here the old atheistic doctrine, that the mind is not a self-existent, independent principle, but a mere result of some mystic action or function of the brain, surrep-

tionally imposed upon us. We have next the assumption, that not only is mesmerism true, but capable of "applications to human welfare," ingeniously insinuated; then follows the trumpet-tongued quotation, "This is the truth, though opposed to the philosophy of ages;" and subjoined to this peruffage appears that very famous woodcut before described by us, representing Dr. Elliotson seated between the two Okeys, in the character of a bearded sage, poring over the book of fate, the inspired damsels on either side resting their fair heads upon his shoulders.*

"We had thought that '*atheist*' was the last argument,—'*the argumentum ad hominem*' of the polemic; but the editor of the *Medical Times*, a supposed professional and scientific journal, resorts to the same cowardly weapon in the hope of consigning mesmerism and Dr. Elliotson to the tar-barrel. It is thus that this medical philosopher speaks of a subject of the highest interest and importance, and of a man who has more of the spirit of Christianity in his little finger than there is in the souls of a thousand Wakleys and Bushnans; for such it ought to be known are the names of the men who glory in their shame:—

"Still we must not permit the sense of the ludicrous to dazzle our judgment, and carry us away from a more serious consideration of the subject; for the principles propounded by *The Zoist*, as we have premised, are calculated to undermine the foundation of all philosophy and religion, and cut asunder the ties that bind together the very framework of society. The ultimate tendency of the doctrines of '*cerebral physiology*,' as propounded by *The Zoist*, Elliotson himself has openly enough avowed; in *Human Physiology* (vide note, p. 365) he formally enunciates this opinion,—we quote his own words,—"*that we possess no such imaginary thing as an immaterial soul.*"

"We have turned to the reference given, and find these words:—

"It is asserted by Lord Brougham, who positively says that we have a "perpetual sense that we are thinking," "quite independent of all material objects," (p. 56,) that the circumstance of the existence of matter is only an hypothesis, and that materialists grossly and dogmatically assume that matter exists. Now, we do not assume—we *know*, that matter exists. From certain sensations, we believe inevitably, intuitively, by the laws of God, that what we term matter exists. He allows, indeed, "that we believe in the existence of matter, because we cannot help it." (p. 241.) This is enough. As to our minds, we observe that no mind exists in nature but as a property or power of matter. We never

* Dr. Bushnan, the editor of the *Medical Times*, little thinks how amusing he is. He fancies that nobody knows that he stole this piece of wit from one of his own fraternity, the late Dr. James Johnson, who wrote the following passage in his *Medico-Chirurgical Review*, in 1843:—

"*The Zoist* is ornamented with a neat vignette representing a venerable man, intended no doubt for Dr. Elliotson, poring over a volume opened on his knee, while two females of prepossessing mien, but remarkably loose habits, support the Doctor upon either side, and compose a striking and interesting group. The ladies, of course, are the Okeys, and although we are aware that such gifted individuals are far above what are vulgarly considered the decencies of life, yet we would venture, with great diffidence, to hint that their petticoats are rather scant." (See our No. VI., p. 279.)

This noble pair of scribblers little thought that the design on our cover was by one of our first artists—by Flaxman: and little did they think, or we think, that these three very figures of our cover would ornament the handsome card sent round by University College in May, 1851, to invite gentlemen to a private view of the Flaxman Gallery in the College. Yet such is the fact, and the College card of invitation lies before us surmounted with the three figures of our cover,—with Flaxman's design:—a neat vignette representing Dr. Elliotson with an Okey, a female of loose habits and rather scant petticoats, on each side, according to Dr. Johnson, in 1843;—Dr. Elliotson and the Okeys, the design reminding one of the choicest hieroglyphics of Moore's almanac, according to Dr. Bushnan, in 1850. (See our No. XXIX., p. 31.) These two "*Ladies*" are really a youth of each sex.—*Zoist*.

see mind. We certainly learn the existence of matter by the property of our brain called mind; but that is no reason for saying that the power called mind exists alone. If it were felt by ourselves to exist, though we had no knowledge of matter around us, it would only shew that we felt personality without knowing the cause of it,—without knowing that we had brains.

"When Lord Brougham reminds us that we learn the existence of matter only by our minds, he should remember that we are not conscious of our existence till matter makes an impression upon us. The existence of mind as a property of peculiarly arranged and circumstanced matter was fully proved before, and therefore these considerations, like every other fact, harmonise with the account: and the doctrine of the existence of mind, independently of matter, indicates a want of modern knowledge, and involves us in endless absurdity. Its studied display usually proceeds in our profession from rank hypocrisy and malice, as though a materialist may not be a devout Christian, and these pharisees say aloud, 'I thank thee, Lord, that I am not as other men are—even as this materialist.' I agree with the early Christians and Mr. Carmichael (*An Essay on such Physical Considerations as are connected with Man's Ultimate Destination*, &c., by Andrew Carmichael, M.R.I.A., Dublin, 1830), that, as all nature is one whole, all other created beings are also organized. They and we are in but one spot at a time, and can move from one spot to another; what does so, cannot be else than matter and a property of matter. I consider this alone a proof that we possess no such imaginary thing as an immaterial soul."

"For doctors to insult each other, and cry '*infidel*' and '*atheist*' when they differ in opinion as to whether they have material or immaterial souls, seems to us to be about as profitable as the '*Gorham controversy*,' and as likely to be satisfactorily decided. It is sufficient for us to know and believe, that if God has given us material minds here, he can give us immaterial ones hereafter, if it so please him.*

"Dr. Elliotson merely says, that we cannot separate mind from matter in this life, and leaves the rest to God, as we willingly do also."—*The Calcutta Morning Chronicle*, Nov. 9th, 1850.

WILLIAM P——, aged about 55, formerly a trooper in a dragoon regiment, was afflicted with hemiplegia of his left side, so badly as to preclude his daily labour *entirely*. His limbs dragged; his circulation and temperature were much affected. He had received severe contusions about the head in an affray with peasantry in Ireland, while on duty there some years ago. On careful exploration, no abnormal depression of bone was apparent. The disease may be traceable to concussion, as he was thrown from his horse severely, on several occasions, while on service in the Peninsula. He is a fine-looking man, about 6 feet 3 inches in height, and of unusually temperate habits for one of his class.

* Dr. Elliotson's words are,—It is the doctrine of Scripture "that the resurrection will be positively of body,—that in our flesh we shall see God,—and therefore our minds, according to the Scripture doctrine, must appear as much a property of body hereafter as at present." "The Christian doctrine teaches the resurrection of what we obviously are—bodies, and this through a *miracle* of the Almighty,"—that by nature our being is utterly extinguished, but by the additional gift of God, by a *miracle*, we shall all be made alive again. He quotes a sermon of Paley for the following passage,—"It is a question by which we need not be at all disturbed, whether the bodies with which we shall arise be new bodies, or the same bodies under a new form; for no alteration will hinder us from remaining the same, provided we are sensible and conscious that we are so." (*Human Physiology*, pp. 43, 47, 48.)—*Zoist*.

He had had a fit occasionally, supposed, from his description, to be epileptic. The paralysis was rapidly increasing: the facial muscles on the left side were becoming implicated. There being general bloodlessness and want of power, &c., I administered small doses of hyd. chlor., with a gentle aperient or two, followed by nutritious diet and cod liver oil.

I mesmerised him for the first time on March 3, for three minutes. He slept for fifteen minutes, and felt much refreshed, and his left hand and arm became sensibly warmer.

4th. Galvanized for 30 minutes. And mesmerised: slept 15 minutes.

6th. Galvanized 30 minutes. Mesmerised: slept 15 min.

8th. Galvanized 15 minutes. Mesmerised: slept 30 min.

10th. Galvanized 15 minutes. Mesmerised: slept 35 min.

11th. Mesmerised *alone*: slept one hour.

12th. Galvanized 20 minutes. Mesmerised: slept 30 min.

13th. Mesmerised only: slept 40 minutes.

14th. Ditto ditto 30 minutes.

15th. Ditto ditto 20 minutes. Much better

in every respect.

17th. Mesmerised: *sleep not recorded*.

18th. Mesmerised: slept 30 minutes.

20th. Mesmerised: slept 25 minutes.

Has gone to work, having recovered the use of his limbs: the temperature quite equal to that of the right side. Has not complained since. He is hearty and well.

. Mesmerism here clearly effected the cure. For everybody knows that a grain or two of calomel and a gentle aperient or two do not cure severe hemiplegia. Those unreasonable antimesmerists who could boldly assert the contrary will not say that these drugs given once or twice can cure a case of any standing: nor cure it in seventeen days. Every body knows that cod liver oil is no remedy for palsy: and at any rate no unconscionable antimesmerist will boldly assert that it cures severe hemiplegia in three weeks. If they do talk thus, we must laugh at them.

The cure cannot be attributed to the galvanism, for this was employed but five times, and sometimes with the mesmerism, and not after the 12th day of treatment. Mesmerism was begun first, and the very first day produced most decided effects,—sleep, refreshment, and warmth of the palsied arm and hand: and it was continued to the last.—*Zoist*.

X. *Comments, cursory and critical, upon Professor Gregory's
"Letters on Animal Magnetism."* By ANTI-GLOBIOSO.

"Demi-verité est mensonge."
Half-truth is untruth.

French Proverb.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ZOIST.

June, 1851.

SIR.—It must be admitted, we may suppose, by all who are competent to form a judgment, that a complete work on mesmerism is still a "*desideratum*" in English literature. Various as are the volumes which we possess, there is something defective in each of them. A work is required, that shall be at once philosophical, scientific and practical; one that shall dive into the depths of the subject; and, discussing with impartiality the controverted points which belong to the psychological and materialistic schools, shall range through the wide field of abnormal facts that present themselves in the study of animal nature, and prove by induction and evidence how they all take their rise from one common principle of action. The "*Isis Revelata*" of Mr. Colquhoun, rich as it is in historical research, leaves a large portion of the subject untouched. The work of Mr. Townshend, though eminently philosophical, and in some parts not unscientific, has in the present day essential shortcomings, which the accomplished author can readily supply in a future edition. Mr. Sandby's volume, though abounding in practical and useful information, and disposing of certain religious scruples, does not aim at a scientific or philosophical character. Dr. Scoresby's work displays a large amount of scientific knowledge, and proves the accuracy of his experimental researches, but there its value ends. Mr. Pyne's little book is most excellent as far as it goes, but is obviously too limited in its compass. Mr. Newnham's thick volume, though elaborately written and full of pretension, is deplorably superficial, and scarcely worth the paper upon which it is printed. Miss Martineau's original letters had great weight at the time of their first publication, as the results of valuable experience, but are probably not much referred to in the present day. When, therefore, it was whispered about, that Dr. Gregory, Professor of Chemistry in the University of Edinburgh, a man of high standing in the scientific and medical world, and who had been the first to introduce the discoveries of Von Reichenbach to the English public, was preparing for publication a work on mesmerism, the greatest interest was naturally felt by the advocates and students of that science.

As you did me the favour to admit in your last number a few of my remarks on Mr. Atkinson's and Miss Martineau's views on the *Laws of Man's Nature and Development*, and as I believe that the public has in a great measure concurred in the opinions I ventured to express, perhaps you will allow me to offer a few observations on Dr. Gregory's letters. For having read with some attention the works referred to above, and many others which have been published on the continent on the same subject, I do not feel myself altogether incompetent for the task.

First, then, as to the title of the book. Why have we again that *double* term "Animal-Magnetism?" Dr. Gregory has himself allowed, that it involves the inconvenience of assuming a theory. But he is surely mistaken in his next assertion, that the word "mesmerism" has a limited meaning. That name is understood to express, as distinctly as it is necessary, the power, which we possess, of inducing a peculiar influence on the system of another, and there is no reason why that word should not be applied to every one of the various methods by which that influence is brought on. Moreover, the word is short and simple; and not an unworthy tribute to the memory of one, who took a prominent part in the re-introduction of the practice. Dr. Gregory also has in another way evinced his disapprobation of his own title; for in the latter part of the book he discards it, and introduces that of "odyle," in its stead. Surely, then, it would be far better to adhere to a phraseology which is now usually adopted. The objection to "odyle" is, that it is new; the objection to "animal-magnetism," that it is troublesome and lengthy.

I was surprized to observe, that in his preface, Dr. Gregory states that he first became acquainted with the subject of his book in 1827; it was not, however, till 1842 or 1843, that he found he could produce the magnetic sleep in others, and that he became thoroughly convinced of the truthfulness of the whole system. The question that here presents itself is, why was he so long silent? If, at an early day, a trumpet had sounded from the north, re-echoing a belief in the facts which ten years ago were the subject of so much debate in this metropolis, who can tell what might have been the beneficial result of such an outspoken declaration? At that period, Dr. Elliotson was bearing "the heat and burden of the day," and stood almost alone, without support or sympathy. Now that his truthfulness is established, we see adherents pouring in, with scarcely an allusion to their great predecessor. Doubtless our learned professor had excellent reasons for his silence; and at any rate the reader may hope to obtain the

results of a larger experience from his prudential reserve. Upon this point, then, let us now enter.

The book itself is written pleasantly; the style is clear and flowing; and Dr. Gregory thoroughly understands his own meaning, and enables the reader to understand it also; a point, which is no small recommendation to a scientific work. The arrangement of the "subject matter" is also admirable. First, he disposes of the objections to the science, next we have a description of the minor phenomena, and thirdly of the higher. His statements abound with copious scientific illustrations, which greatly assist the reader in his comprehension of the subject. Nothing can be better, as far as they go, than the first eight chapters. He especially enters largely upon the subject of clairvoyance and lucid prevision, and seems to have studied it carefully.

In the ninth chapter, our author refers to Dr. Darling, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Braid, and it is satisfactory to observe, that he takes a correct view of their different methods. He sees that each of these is but mesmerism under a different phase.

His chapter upon trance is not very satisfactory; the author himself admitting that he is deficient in experience upon this point; but his observations on phrenology and phreno-magnetism are accurate.

Chapter the twelfth is but a second edition in a shorter compass of his own translation of Von Reichenbach. Much therefore of it is both superfluous and tedious. In the two last chapters, however, of this First Part of his book, there is a good deal of valuable observation well deserving of the serious consideration of his medical brethren. At page 41 he had said, that "it is to medical men that the public will look for the further prosecution of the enquiry." It is to be feared, however, that the public will be compelled to employ a little gentle violence with the said medical gentlemen, before they will feel disposed to take up the enquiry in the manner that Dr. Gregory would require from them.

The Second Part is full of interesting facts and cases, and closes the volume with much useful information.

The question, however, that now comes to be asked, is, What, after all, is the real value of the book? The price is heavy, and a purchaser, who would wish to have his library of mesmeric works complete, might be disposed to enquire, what amount of information he would be likely to obtain by its possession? It would be the grossest flattery to say, that Dr. Gregory has added anything new to our previous stores of knowledge. In its main points the book is the merest

repetition of what has been said by English and foreign writers on the subject over and over again: it is not a collection of truths, but of palpable truisms. What he says of simple mesmerism may be found in every mesmeric work; what he says of electro-biology and of the waking or conscious state, may be found in Mr. Stone's pamphlet and is well known to mesmerisers; what he says of the researches of Reichenbach may be found in Dr. Ashburner's notes in Mr. Baillière's excellent edition of that work; and the statements respecting witchcraft, divination, and magic, and of the assistance which "natural causes" offer in elucidation of many mysterious and marvellous traditions, are iterations copied almost verbatim from various publications under this head. And having therefore carefully read these "Letters" through, I really know of nothing original in them, unless it be a theory of clairvoyance under the action of odyle, which theory in itself is not unworthy of consideration, as far as the author himself is able to unfold it, though he naturally leaves the *modus operandi* very obscurely defined. Saving this hypothesis, the whole volume is but a *réchauffé* of former works.

But there is cause for more serious complaint against Dr. Gregory. Want of originality in an author is no crime; and it may be fairly expected from the lucid arrangement of his matter, and the information which he has communicated respecting Mr. Lewis and Dr. Darling, that many persons will rise from the book with satisfaction and profit. But what reader previously unacquainted with the history of mesmerism, would surmise from these pages that almost everything that is said in them has been repeatedly said before? This want of reference in our learned Professor evinces a want of candour; what he has kept back is in importance nearly as much as what he has revealed; his omissions almost amount to a suppression of truth. In this respect two striking instances force themselves upon my attention; and I would say that Dr. Gregory might have chosen for the motto of his book, the words that were applied to an angry old author, "*Pereant, qui ante nos nostra dixerunt.*"

I have already referred to Dr. Elliotson. The mesmeric world well knows what it owes to him, what he has endured, and what he has accomplished: but who could guess from the faint and hesitating praise so briefly accorded in these Edinburgh epistles, that it is owing to his unwearied exertions, that mesmerism has taken its rank among the sciences in this country. It was of course impossible for any one to publish a work on this subject, and entirely omit that honored name; but in these "*Letters on Animal Magnetism*," allusions

are so few and far between that an omission of the name altogether would hardly have been more offensive. For a moment I have been inclined to attribute this silence to personal or professional jealousy; but that notion of course is out of the question. Can it be that the narrow minded views of others have unconsciously warped the feelings of the professor, and restrained or guided his pen? Can it be that he prefers belonging to a clique, and gives up "to party what was meant for mankind?"

But the scanty references to *The Zoist* itself deserve still stronger reprehension. And even when a reference is made, it is given in a cold indifference of tone which seems to imply a tendency to ignore the work, if that were practicable. Upon this point I feel at liberty to speak out my opinion, being neither proprietor nor editor of your journal, and having no other interest in its success than what appertains to a love of truth and science. Let me then observe that I can regard *The Zoist* as no common or ephemeral work. When I look to the depths of its philosophy, the largeness of its views, the variety and copiousness of its facts, and the accuracy of its details, dissenting as I do from many of its opinions, I feel confident, nevertheless, that this journal will take a permanent position in periodical literature. The medical reviews may strive to keep it down, or affect an unacquaintance with its existence, but no physiological library will ere long be complete unless its goodly volumes appear in their proper places. The day is not far distant when the early numbers will become scarce, and be eagerly bought up as opportunity offers. And having purchased every number since its commencement, and carefully perused them, I scruple not to say that there is not a single fact of importance recorded by Dr. Gregory, which had not previously made its appearance in some one of its pages. This, our Professor of Chemistry must have known, or ought to have known, for he has been a contributor to it: and it would have been but becoming and graceful on his part to have informed his readers more readily and more frequently of that vast storehouse of scientific knowledge.

All this is said more "in sorrow than in anger;" but had I not given utterance to these opinions, I should myself have been guilty of the crime, which I have stigmatized in my motto. I have not the honour of Dr. Gregory's acquaintance; and I believe him to be anxious to promote the spread of science; but while I have ventured to direct the attention of the reader to what are painful defects in his work, I cheerfully acknowledge at the same time that it is calculated to aid the

cause, in which we feel a common interest. Many persons, however, say, What is the use of giving utterance to these feelings of disapprobation: it were far better, they think, to be silent, and appear pleased and satisfied; and not give the common enemies of mesmerism a cause of triumph at this expression of differences. I am altogether of an opposite opinion; and if I have not misunderstood the feelings with which the editor of *The Zoist* would wish his journal conducted, those feelings coincide with my own. Let praise be rigidly and amply accorded, where it be due; but let the truth and the whole truth be spoken without foolish delicacy on one side, or morbid apprehension on the other. Neither mesmerism nor cerebral physiology will suffer damage in the long run by this proceeding.

I remain, Mr. Editor, Yours, &c.,

ANTI-GLORIOSO.

XI. *Report of cases treated by mesmerism and in connexion with the Exeter Mesmeric Institution. The painless removal of a very painful Wart: 5 cases of the Loss of Voice: 6 of Acute and Chronic Rheumatism: 1 of Chlorotic Anæmia with Anasarca: 1 of Rheumatism with Anasarca: 1 of Hysteria with violent Convulsions and Delirium: 1 of violent Mania with strong hereditary Predisposition: 1 of Deafness of seven years duration: 1 of Wry Neck: 1 of Pericarditis: 2 of Strumous Ophthalmia with Ulcers on the Cornea: 1 of St. Vitus's Dance: 1 of great benefit in a case of severe injury: 2 cases of prolonged mesmeric sleep.* By Mr. J. B. PARKER, Surgeon, Exeter.

"When Mr. Wakley, in the pages of the *Lancet*, denounced the mesmerists as a clique of impostors, unfit for the society of respectable men, he did that which he had often done before, and heaped abuse on men, who, from the purity of their motives and the expansiveness of their minds, were fit only for his scorn. The dissensions between the committee of the 'North London' and Dr. Elliotson at that time simply marks a phase which occurs in the progress of all new ideas, and was just what might have been expected. But what a contrast that, with the position of mesmerism now, when patients are treated at an hospital ostensibly established for the purpose, and conducted by men of such worth, that the very slanderers are silenced."—*Pioneer*, June 7, 1851.

I AND my mesmerisers have now succeeded in producing some of the phenomena of mesmerism on upwards of *twelve hundred* persons, out of a population of 85,000. I have performed upwards of two hundred surgical operations without the patients feeling the pain whilst under the influence of mes-

merism, including twenty most painful operations on the eye, tying the radial artery, more than one hundred bleedings, cutting off a very painful wart, and the extraction of upwards of *forty teeth*, more than thirty during the last seven months, when seldom less than *ten*, but more frequently when *fifty* or *seventy*, persons, have been present. These facts have nearly silenced the venomous tongues of our opponents; and, as I am resolutely determined to spread the truth of the blessings of mesmerism, I have gratuitous *séances* at the Exeter Mesmeric Institution twice weekly: and one of the great advantages of my *séances* is the number of persons who present themselves for the relief of headache, earache, rheumatism, toothache, &c. In the majority of cases, the extraction of the teeth has been avoided by the permanent relief mesmerism has afforded after every other means had failed. In many of these cases, the oil of tar, creosote, oil of cloves, laudanum, and various other applications had failed; and in some cases it has been necessary to try as many as six mesmerisers in immediate succession before any relief has been produced. Another no small advantage from this multitude is, that we have always found some clairvoyant to give directions how to deepen the sleep; and when this has been practicable (and I have invariably found their instructions perfectly correct), it was a very great advantage in our mesmeric proceedings, since it gave increased confidence to the operator, as will be illustrated in the following case.

Painless removal of a very painful Wart.—E. Collins, set 17 years, came one morning to consult me about a very painful wart on the fore finger, the extreme sensibility of which I attempted to destroy with nitrate of silver, having immersed the finger in hot-water for half an hour previously. As this afforded no relief she came the same evening to my *séance*: and after some time mesmeric sleep was produced, but not sufficiently deep to allow the slightest touch of the wart. Having at this time another young woman under my influence, I consulted with her what was best to be done as I was anxious to cut off the wart in the presence of at least fifty persons. The young woman who was under my influence immediately went to the other end of the room and began to breathe over the head, eyes and finger, and in the course of ten minutes she pronounced E. Collins to be ready for the operation. I immediately pared off the wart, including a portion of skin at the base. The removal of the wart from the base was so complete that at least a table-spoonful of blood was lost. The finger was dressed with cotton-wool and

bound with sticking plaister; and after half an hour the patient was awakened. She knew nothing that had been done, and could only believe that the wart had been cut off when it was shewn to her in a basin. As a further test of the very great sensibility of the surface from whence the wart had been removed, three days afterwards she came to have the dressings removed, when I attempted to apply very slightly the nitrate of silver, which gave her very considerable pain as she was then in her natural state and not in mesmeric sleep.

Loss of Voice.—Jane Rogers, aged 14 years, had lost her voice for several months in consequence of repeated colds; and, when other medical treatment had failed, I succeeded in restoring her voice, by mesmerising her for several days. She then caught a fresh cold and I put her under the care of another mesmeriser who soon succeeded in restoring her voice, which has remained well through the whole of the past winter.

Loss of Voice.—Palmer, aged 21 years, a porter, had lost his voice for ten days, during which time he had been under the care of a medical man. One evening he presented himself at one of my *séances*. He could then only speak in a whisper. He was successfully mesmerised at the first attempt, the voice in great measure restored, but was lost as soon as he was awakened. The following day he was again mesmerised; the voice was again restored; and it has remained quite well ever since.

Loss of Voice.—E. Steer, had lost her voice for three months. During this time she had been under the care of the family medical attendant without any benefit. She was now mesmerised for several weeks; her voice was completely restored; and it has remained quite well ever since.

Loss of Voice.—A groom, at a public house, had lost his voice for several months when he presented himself at one of my *séances*. He was successfully mesmerised the first time, and his voice restored in the presence of eighty persons.

Acute Rheumatism.—Mr. C. whose former attacks of acute rheumatism I have published in *The Zoist*, Jan. 29, 1851, again sent for me, and I found him unable to move in bed, from an attack similar to the former. All the parts affected were much swollen and very painful, and there was

complete inability to move. I then gave him suitable remedies, and he was mesmerised twice daily with immediate and constant relief: and at the end of *ten* days he was enabled to resume his occupation; on former occasions, without mesmerism, he has been disabled for three months from a similar attack.

Severe Chronic Rheumatism.—Bodley, aged 70 years, applied to the Exeter Mesmeric Institution at one of my *séances*. He had not been free from pain for seven years, and was completely crippled from rheumatism, and was obliged to walk with two sticks. He was put into mesmeric sleep, at the first attempt, in three minutes. At the end of ten days he was quite restored and free from pain.

Severe Chronic Rheumatism.—Hooper, aged 68 years, crippled from rheumatism for several years, was mesmerised for a fortnight and completely restored.

Severe Chronic Rheumatism.—Hooper, aged 56 years, brother of the preceding, also crippled from rheumatism. He was mesmerised for a fortnight and completely cured.

Severe Chronic Rheumatism.—Crabb, aged 42 years, had suffered from rheumatism for two years: had been a patient in the Exeter Hospital and applied in a crippled state at one of my *séances*. He was so much relieved the first time as to be able to run all the way home, a distance of nearly half a mile; and after a few more applications of mesmerism was quite restored.

Severe Chronic Rheumatism.—A farm servant was so crippled from rheumatism as to be unfit for his occupation; he was mesmerised for ten days and quite restored.

Chlorotic Anæmia with Anasarca.—D. aged 21 years, had been the subject of chlorotic anæmia for two years. The countenance had the appearance of spermaceti. There was œdema of the under eyelids and cheeks with considerable œdema of both feet, and a disinclination to take the least exertion as it produced an uncomfortable palpitation of the heart. She had been under medical treatment for a long while before I saw her, and, as there was no prospect of improvement, she was advised to try mesmerism. This was continued for three months combined with suitable medical treatment. At the end of this time she was restored to such

a state of vigorous health as she had been a stranger to, from the commencement of her health being impaired.

Rheumatism and Anasarca.—An elderly lady had been complaining for some time of inability to take her usual exercise, as it was attended with pain over the whole system; and she was seldom free from pain, even when she was perfectly quiet. The face and abdomen, legs and feet, were dropsical. She was submitted to mesmerism and suitable medical treatment for a few weeks, by which her health was so much restored as to enable her to walk ten miles a day without any inconvenience.

Hysteria with violent Convulsions and Delirium.—C. B., whose case I mentioned in *The Zoist*, July, 1850, should attract the notice of every well-wisher of the human race. During the last seven months I have been called to see this young woman in hysteria with violent convulsions or delirium at least *fifty times*. Almost every attack has been the result of fright of some kind or other, of which she has been very susceptible since a narrow escape from drowning fifteen months ago. On my arrival I have found her either unconscious or delirious, and she has generally been in one of those states at least an hour before I have been fetched, as the friends have always wished to avoid giving me the trouble to attend her; and, whether I have found her unconscious or delirious, I have seldom been more than *two minutes* in bringing her under my mesmeric influence, when all her previous sufferings have immediately vanished: and after half an hour or so she has invariably given me directions as to the time of awaking her.

Sunday evening, May 25, 1851. I am just returned from witnessing one of the above scenes, and I must here record the great difference of my feelings in reference to another case of the same violent character that I have witnessed within the last week. In this latter case I had never seen the patient in hysteric convulsions before, and on my arrival I found her struggling and unconscious; and, as I had never before attempted to mesmerise her, I had no alternative but to wait for a moment of consciousness and give her a dose of medicine, and she had no sooner taken it than the hysteric convulsion returned, and continued with slight interruptions for several hours.

Violent Mania with strong hereditary predisposition, completely cured by mesmerism.—E. F., a young gentleman, in

his sixteenth year: his father is now and has been in an asylum for these four years past: his grandmother, on his father's side, died deranged. This young gentleman was at school ten miles from Exeter, and determined to win the prize of his class. He studied so hard as to become deranged. The medical attendant on the father attended the son for fourteen days, and now considered the case as hopeless. Whilst in this wretched state, the patient had torn every nail of his hands from its root, and, he being in this hopeless state, the mother flew to mesmerism as the last resource, as her only child had passed the whole of the fourteenth night in violent delirium. As I and my mesmeriser went to the country town, my mesmeriser soon induced mesmeric sleep, and we had the gratification of bringing him the whole way to Exeter in a quiet state in an omnibus; and after eleven days perseverance, we had the further gratification of restoring his intellect, and in the course of a few weeks he was quite restored to health. He has remained quite well ever since, now twelve months.

Loss of Voice.—Elizabeth Chapman came to one of my mesmeric *séances*, and could only speak in a whisper. She was successfully mesmerised on the first attempt, and after four times her voice was quite restored.

Deafness of seven years' duration.—Elizabeth ——— had been so deaf for seven years as to be unfit for service. She was mesmerised for four months, and the hearing so much restored that she heard conversation in an ordinary tone.

Wry Neck.—Cooley, aged 14 years, had the chin permanently fixed over the right shoulder for three months before she applied for my advice. Any attempt to turn the head was attended with considerable pain. She was now mesmerised, but not so regularly as I could have wished, as more time was required to effect her cure, which her irregular attendance protracted to five weeks. The head at the end of this time had resumed its natural position, with its ordinary moveableness without pain. This is a case pointing out the necessity of regularity in the application of mesmerism.

Pericarditis completely relieved by mesmerism.—E. Mead, aged 22 years, had suffered for many months from pain over the region of the heart to such an extent as to render her unfit for service. Pulse quick and wiry; every pulsation produced pain, which was increased by exertion; countenance

florid and anxious. Suitable treatment combined with mesmerism has removed all her sufferings, and she has returned to her situation quite well after three weeks absence.

Strumous Ophthalmia.—Harris, aged 5 years, had been subject to strumous ophthalmia for nearly two years; a great part of this time she had been a patient in the Exeter Eye Infirmary without any benefit. The day she was brought to me the chin was resting on the upper part of the breast-bone to avoid the light, in addition to her wearing a green veil. There was an ulcer on each cornea. Mesmerism combined with medical treatment for three weeks completely restored the eyes to their natural lustre, and she had no further need to wear a veil.

Strumous Ophthalmia.—Reed, aged 5½ years, had been subject to strumous ophthalmia for 18 months. She likewise had been a patient of the Exeter Eye Infirmary for many months. When she was brought to me there was an ulcer on each cornea, the chin resting on the breast-bone to avoid the light, in addition to a green veil. This little patient was treated with mesmerism and other suitable remedies, and at the end of five weeks her eyes had resumed their natural lustre; and the eye-lashes, which had fallen off, had now grown again. She had now no further need to wear a veil, and she could run about in bright sunshine.

St. Vitus's Dance.—I., a little girl, 11 years of age, whose case I reported in a former number of *The Zoist*, was on a visit to some friends in the country, when she was allowed to ride a very spirited pony. The animal ran away with her and threw her off. The symptoms of St. Vitus's dance soon made their reappearance, and were not relieved by ordinary medical treatment. When I saw her she was partially paralyzed; the whole body was incessantly agitated by involuntary movements; she could not hold a cup in her hand or walk a few steps without falling. Mesmerism combined with suitable medical treatment was now continued for six weeks, and perfect success has been the result.

Benefit from mesmerism in a case of severe injury from a fall.—T. Beedle, a carpenter, March 20, 1851. Whilst he was repairing the roof of a house, the ladder slid away and he fell to the ground. When I arrived I found him in a state of collapse, and it was necessary to give him cordials with ammonia: and, as soon as reaction had taken place, the breath-

ing was short, hurried, and very difficult: there were no bones broken. I then bled him and gave him an aperient, which produced no alleviation. The countenance was now very anxious, and difficulty of breathing very distressing. I was fearful some vessel might have given way internally, and I told the friends I apprehended a fatal result, and that mesmerism offered the only chance for him, which must be continued by a relay of mesmerisers throughout the night. At my morning visit I was delighted to find my instructions had been strictly followed with the most satisfactory result. It was necessary to keep him in bed for several days, and mesmerism was persevered with until he was enabled to resume his occupation, as he did at the end of a fortnight from the accident.

Two cases of prolonged mesmeric sleep.—Jane Berry, a servant living at Mr. Crabb's, Chandler, High street, allowed a neighbour to try to mesmerise her; and he succeeded. But, elated with his success, he lost all control over his subject, and one evening I was fetched to give instructions how to awake her. Perceiving the mesmeriser had lost his firmness, it was necessary to transfer her to Mr. Read, my mesmeriser, who in the course of an hour and a half succeeded in awaking her. About a fortnight after this transaction, a young man in the family thought he should be more successful, and soon produced mesmeric sleep on Tuesday evening, March 11, 1851, and then found he had no power to awake her. As he found all his efforts unsuccessful, my mesmeriser was again in request, and remained with her on the Wednesday all day and night. On Thursday he thought she was awake as she opened her eyes. He then took her for a walk of three miles. He had to remain with her for seven days and seven nights before he could awake her. During this time she took her usual food and medicine when necessary. Having passed eight days in mesmeric sleep, she was awoke with perfect unconsciousness of everything that had transpired. Her exhibitions of independent clairvoyance were very remarkable and too numerous for the pages of the valuable *Zoist*, which should be the receptacle of facts of usefulness.

Within a few weeks of this occurrence, Emily Lang, a servant girl of Mr. Whippell, Mercer, High street, in this city, came to my Friday evening *séance* to have her toothache relieved, and this was effected. She was then thrown into mesmeric sleep, and after half an hour was awakened, and returned to her family. She went to bed and slept all night and got up early next morning, and attended to her domestic

occupations. At 10 o'clock she was found sitting on a chair asleep, and about an hour after this I was fetched to awake her. As she remained in this state during the day and night, on Sunday morning she was removed nearly half a mile to lodgings, and late the same evening she was awoke without the least consciousness of what had transpired.

In addition to the above recorded cases, my mesmeric *séances* have been and are so numerous attended, that a multitude of cases have been relieved without any comment: and as mesmerism has been proved to be a specific in the irregularities of the female system, hundreds of females have experienced the blessing of mesmerism.

I shall be happy to give any respectable person the name and residence of any case I have reported in *The Zoist*.

J. B. PARKER.

*** When medical treatment was adopted simultaneously with mesmerism, we cannot expect our readers to be satisfied that mesmerism effected the cure. If medical treatment had previously failed, and there was success when this was continued with mesmerism, the fact is no proof that mesmerism effected the cure or contributed to it, because we do not know that the medical treatment, when introduced with mesmerism, was not superior to that which had been employed without mesmerism.—*Zoist*.

XII. *Rapid Cure of a Fit of the Gout, at the Mesmeric Infirmary.* By Mr. CAPERN.

BENJAMIN DICKENSON, late of Tiverton, now of No. 1, Store Street, Bedford Square, on Saturday the 14th June, 1851, was attacked with gout in the right foot. On the following Monday, being advised to go to the Mesmeric Infirmary, I did so with the impression they would do no good. In less than ten minutes after Mr. Capern had begun to operate I was quite relieved from pain, and can now walk quite easy, and wear my boots, as though nothing had happened.

BENJAMIN DICKENSON.

June 17th.

I have great pleasure in adding my testimony to the wonderful effects of mesmerism in the above case, a complete cure being effected in six or seven minutes by Mr. Capern,

notwithstanding the patient had just stated that he could not have walked, or even put his foot to the ground, had the room full of gold been offered to him: and for forty-eight hours previous he had endured the most intense pain, compelling him to go to the Infirmary in a cab. But he walked home without requiring a stick.

ROBERT WHEELER JOB,
Artist in Photography,
7, Newman Street.

June 23th, 1851.

XIII. Review of "*Letters to a Candid Inquirer, on Animal Magnetism*." By William Gregory, M.D., F.R.S.E., Professor of Chemistry in the University of Edinburgh."

IF we were anxious to present our readers with some sign indicative of the progress of mesmerism, perhaps we could not select one more clearly conveying the required information than these letters by Dr. Gregory. They are written in a style well calculated to bring down a somewhat difficult subject, as regards its connection with physiological science, to the comprehension of the popular reader and inquirer. To our taste the style of composition is perfect. When we made a remark of this kind to a friend a few days ago, he replied, "The work is written by a Gregory," implying that a knowledge of this fact was a guarantee for the character and style of the production.

Having said this much regarding our opinion of the literary merits of the work, let us without further preface proceed. Did ever critic undertake his task and find no fault with his author? The most laudatory review, even if the laudations reach the last page without alloy, winds up with a sentence or two of recommendation for a second edition, and it is said to be almost impossible for a member of this captious and fault-finding race to bestow any praise without neutralizing the effect with a small quantity of that article which is too often their staple commodity. Well then, if necessary, we confess our weakness, but, like all our fellow labourers, we protest in the name of all that is just and honourable, that we will not find fault without good and sufficient reason.

When we opened the book, and turned over the title-page, unfortunately, the first impression was disagreeable. Our eye caught at the dedication, and we stood aghast,—"*To His Grace George Douglass Campbell, Duke of Argyll, K.J., F.R.S.E., &c., &c., &c.*" What! we cried aloud, are the days of literary flunkeyism not yet numbered? We were

painfully reminded of the course pursued by the men of a past age, who always placed their productions under the fostering care of some great man, and in terms of fulsome adulation besought him to protect with the shadow of his *mighty* wings their *puny* bantling. It is still the custom, and we see no good reason why the custom should be changed, for ship-builders to solicit some fair lady to pronounce the name, and to break a bottle of wine against the bows of the vessel which they have constructed, ere she passes into the waters. Coach-builders always tell their customers that certain patented improvements are approved and patronized by my Lord This or That. In every town in the kingdom, the fashionable grocer and tea-dealer, the tailor, the corset-maker, and the peruke-manufacturer, think it essential to their welfare that they should be patronized; each advertizes his wares with the important announcement in gilded letters over his shop-window, that by special license he is so-and-so to the Duke of Belgravia; or, perhaps the still more fortunate puffer, to Her Majesty, Prince Albert, and the Royal Family,—and so let it be. The many are attracted by such trifles, and they frequently reap their reward. In this world of competition men think that they elevate themselves above their fellows, more by the display of trash tinsel, by the glare of some ridiculous sham, than by the striving after a positive improvement in their several callings.

We had thought, however, that literary men were influenced by higher motives. We had thought, at any rate, that the teachers of philosophy were so profoundly impressed with the value of their researches—so conscious that the information which they publish from time to time was worthy of being well received without the assistance and patronage of the world's great men, that we confess we felt something more than astonishment when we discovered that Professor Gregory had dedicated his book to His Grace the Duke of Argyle. If it were necessary to solicit the assistance of some protecting arm, were there no veterans in science to whom this compliment could have been offered? Were there no labourers in the field with Dr. Gregory? Are there no men who have stood boldly forth, and in spite of obloquy and the frown of the great and powerful, advanced the science which is now attracting so much attention? What has the Duke of Argyle done for the advancement of Mesmerism? He is young in years, but destined we sincerely trust to take rank amongst the real labourers in the scientific vineyard, and when he has done so, it will be time enough for the workers to step out of their way to perform an act of homage.

We can see no good reason why a veteran in philosophy—and moreover, one, who from his position should have set an example of good taste and literary independence to those who naturally look to their teacher at college for example—should follow a worn-out track, and one which the great majority of thinking men have long considered undignified.

We confess that we are jealous for the independence of literary men. We look with the most profound respect on the literary exertions of thinking and scientific men,—their labour is more glorious than all the handicraft which the workers of this busy hive perform,—they are the pioneers in all that relates to true progress; and we feel certain that, as a body, they are impressed with such exalted notions of their calling, that they would wish their productions to take position on their intrinsic merits, without any attempted bolstering from whatever quarter the same may be tendered. Above all, they should be true to themselves; and to do this, they must recognize their brethren,—their fellow labourers, and endeavour to give to each his due. We cannot conceive that our author is acting in accordance with the ethical rules which should be our guide, if he commence the illustration by a subject like mesmerism,—concerning which there have been so many difficulties to overcome, and in the practice of which many men have sacrificed their professional position,—by ignoring the exertions and the contributions which they have added to the general stock of natural facts. By the courage of these men, mesmerism has progressed, and at the twelfth hour, when the victory is won—when the difficulty is to find an individual whose judgment is worth appealing to, who does not recognize the truth of what has been written during the past thirteen years—we say, at this hour of the fight, for a person in Professor Gregory's position to voluntarily come forward and to give the greater number of his compeers the cold shoulder, is, in our opinion, one of those extraordinary proceedings which we should not have expected to meet with in the occupant of a professorial chair in modern Athens. Nowhere do we find that he refers in the manner he ought to have done to the labours of men who have worked in the path he is now pursuing. He quotes plentifully from the cases he saw with Dr. Darling, a gentleman who has lately arrived from America on a purely mercantile speculation. We mean no disrespect to Dr. Darling; we merely wish to remark that Dr. Gregory appeals to his experience with this gentleman, but nowhere quotes the cases or refers to the experience of those who have worked for years without any other fee or reward than the approval of their own conscience.

and who by their exertions have rendered it safe for a professor of chemistry to speak out boldly. He three times slightly refers to *The Zoist*, but nowhere informs his readers that it is the only repertory of facts published in this country—that it is a quarterly journal, and has appeared regularly for the last eight years. He nowhere quotes or appeals to the experience of Elliotson, Ashburner, Sandby, Thompson, Chandler, and a host of others, who have all recorded cases, and written papers replete with philosophical observations tending to elucidate this most difficult subject. He says that the Rev. Messrs. Townshend and Sandby “have published small works on mesmerism,” when the fact is, they have both published most interesting and instructive works *as large as his own*, and each containing a larger amount of practical information—the result of several years of study and research.

For thirteen years—we are speaking now in the name of mesmerisers in general—we have had to fight against the ignorance and prejudice of the community, the opposition not confined to the vulgar and uneducated, but most frequently met with amongst persons in that station of life which is considered to be refined; and none but those who have suffered from the annoyances can have the least idea of the extent to which the persecution was carried, or of the means used to damage the reputation of those who were guilty of the crime of speaking the truth, and of not bowing down in obedience to the dicta of men who spoke without investigation, and denounced those they should have esteemed. The members of the medical profession who have been investigating mesmerism, have had to submit to the most unprincipled opposition. The periodical literature of their profession, with scarcely an exception, denounced them in the most severe terms, and their brethren were told over and over again, not to meet in consultation any one who practised the hated science. Here is a specimen only a week old—

“Quackery and imposture must cease in the profession. Men doing the bidding of idle lords and ladies, dabblers in physic, varying their gossip of the chorus of Grisi and Taglioni with the astonishing lies of mesmerism and homœopathy, must be made to feel that they are more accountable to their profession than to their fashionable companions.”—*Lancet*, June 21, 1851.*

The public voice was frequently raised in obedience to

* We have every reason to believe that this was written by a person whose conduct was so disgusting at the house of a gentleman, a short time back, where there was a case of mesmerism under investigation, that he was threatened with personal chastisement, and was compelled to apologize for the gross language he used.

the same opinion, and all those who have been engaged on this subject have experienced the damage which a determination to do what they knew to be right, effected in their social position. The vulgar at all times are ready enough to seize on a subject which their prurient imaginations can pervert, and it needed but the signal from those organs, which are falsely considered to speak the sentiments of the profession, to hound on a class, by far too numerous, who always wait till some opinion is pronounced concerning a new truth, because they think they can then quote a high authority. Thus, frequently, the advice of the most unworthy persons was followed, and as a necessary consequence, great mischief was the result. However, the world now recognizes the truth, the many are convinced, but the few remain where they have been for years, the occupants of the opposition benches, having all natural facts and the greater number of thinking men arrayed against them.*

We regret that Dr. Gregory has used the term animal magnetism. The use of this term was discontinued because it involved an hypothesis, and the term mesmerism was substituted because it did not involve an hypothesis. When we say that we mesmerise a person, although the word is derived from the name of the modern discoverer of the power, we do not mean to suggest an hypothesis, we simply state a fact—we recognize a power to do a certain something by means of passes, or by some other means; but concerning which power we know but little. We have a precedent for this course in the use of the term galvanism. Mesmerism is a word now generally used throughout the country, and it is beginning to be used on the Continent, and when there is nothing to be gained in exactitude of expression, we would not advocate the alteration of our nomenclature. We object therefore to the term animal magnetism, because it implies an hypothesis, and we adopt the term mesmerism because it represents the existence of a fact. The use of what we consider the objectionable term introduces a looseness of expression. For in-

* Mesmerism is again attracting attention, we may be quite sure of that, for the waverers, and those who only speak out when it is safe to do so, begin to breathe more freely, and to whisper a few words in favour of the truth. Amongst this class we rank the Messrs. Chambers of Edinburgh. Some years ago they published several papers in their journal, but after a little time they ceased to do so, not because they had changed their opinion, but because it was possible, from the position which the medical profession had assumed, that the sale of their journal might become injured. Thus the men who had done so much towards enlightening the masses by bringing down to the money-capabilities of all men useful and scientific information, treated a great scientific truth as a mere article of merchandize. On a recent occasion they refused to insert an account of the astounding results obtained by Dr. Esdaile in India, and gave as a reason, that the sale of their journal would suffer. They have now become courageous again, and advocate the truth, when their advocacy is of little importance.

stances,* Dr. Gregory says: "I would urge on the reader the important consideration, which to me appears the turning point of the controversy, that all, even the most marvellous facts of magnetism, have occurred spontaneously without any magnetic process." Now, to make this sentence intelligible—for Dr. Gregory does not mean to say that the phenomena of magnetism are witnessed independently of the power or force of magnetism—it requires the word "animal" introduced in two places, and after having done this, the sentence is incorrect, because we possess no proof that there is such a power as animal magnetism, and if not, we have no right to speak of an animal-magnetic process. Again, Dr. Gregory thinks its highly probable, and so do we, that the power, the existence of which Reichenbach has demonstrated, is identical with the power which we use when we produce a mesmeric effect, or, rather, when we induce certain phenomena, by whatever means accomplished, and which for the want of a better method of explaining ourselves we rank for the present under this title. Now, if the "od" force or power be identical with what we have been in the habit of recognizing as mesmeric force or power, and if Reichenbach be correct in his statement, that this "od" force is not identical with magnetic force or power, what right have we to speak of the phenomena of animal magnetism, or of the animal magnetic process? In fact we are quite at a loss to account for the anomaly, that Dr. Gregory should agree with Reichenbach in destroying the identity of the two powers, and yet continue to use a phraseology which will lead the superficial reader to believe the reverse. He has written a work descriptive of certain phenomena which he designates by a particular title, and the whole force of his arguments indicates that the title which he has chosen tends to give an erroneous explanation of the phenomena!

We shall not enter into an examination of the proofs which Reichenbach advances for the existence of this "od" force, because we wish our readers to study for themselves his philosophical researches, which they can easily do by reading the translation of his work. There are two editions, one by Dr. Gregory and another by Dr. Ashburner. The latter we consider the best, not only on account of the faithful character of the translation, but because it is enriched throughout with copious and learned notes, embodying a vast amount of curious information. While we are on the subject of nomenclature, we must enter our protest against a still more unjust

* Dr. G. is guilty of this constantly: and we all should be obliged to commit this error, or talk of animal-magnetizers animal-magnetizing patients at the animal-magnetic infirmary, if we gave the name of magnetism to mesmerism.—*Zoist*.

tifiable innovation by Dr. Gregory. We allude to the word which he uses for the purpose of designating this new force we have now under consideration. Reichenbach in his work, after referring to the isolated manifestations of this force which have been noticed during the past seventy years, and the great variety of names which have been applied to it, all more or less derived from certain resemblances or complications with magnetism, with which he contends, "that it has no more identity than magnetism has with crystallization, than crystallization with electricity, electricity with affinity, than heat with light, &c.," says:—

"But as long as an empty iron rod, which will not support an iron filing, displays as much power in regard to the force, of which we are treating, as a powerful steel magnet of equal size; so long as magnets and crystals are met with acting with equal strength upon the nerves, the former of which will support masses of iron, while the latter will not lift up a filing, and no scientific account can be offered of this vast distinction, so long will the two forces remain essentially different, so that we cannot examine them under a common point of view; and therefore, for the present, a peculiar fitting name appears to be necessarily required. Leaving the etymological derivation to be justified at some other opportunity, I will take the liberty to propose the short word *Od* for the force which we are engaged in examining. Every one will admit it to be desirable that an uni-syllabic word beginning with a vowel should be selected for an object which occurs universally in an infinity of complex conditions of the material world, for the sake of convenient conjunction in the manifold compound words. The words magnetism, electricity, &c., are by far too long for convenient use in the language of science. When they are lengthened by additions, as in vital magnetism, animal magnetism, &c., it becomes as burdensome as it is false, for these things do not belong exclusively or even principally to life, still less are they identical with magnetism. To that which supports iron, and constitutes the compass, let us leave the old name, with the original conception of a supporter of iron, which belongs to it. If then the term *Od* shall be found acceptable, in general use, for the force which does not support iron, and for which we require and seek a name, the nomenclature for all its various kinds of derivation may be easily formed by composition, &c."—*Ashburner's Translation*, pp. 223-4.

Now, in spite of the reasons given by Reichenbach for the course he has pursued, in spite of the great caution manifested on his part, Dr. Gregory substitutes the word "*odyle*" for the word "*od*." He says: "In the magnet, this influence which Reichenbach has named *odyle*," p. 249. We think this is taking a great liberty, and we have reason to know that Reichenbach is by no means pleased with this substitu-

tion of terms. Dr. Gregory has a fancy for the word *odyle*. He does not like the word *od*, because we presume it looks and sounds so very odd. He does not suggest his term as a quasi-improvement in a foot note to the translation of his author, but he absolutely alters the text and perverts Reichenbach's meaning for the sake of introducing his pet word. We contend that a translator has no right to pursue this course. When he professes to place before the public the researches and scientific thoughts of a foreign philosopher, he is bound to do so. Any suggestions he may have to offer find their proper place in a foot note. It is not as if Reichenbach had expressed a doubt about the word. He does no such thing, and is most positive in his reasons why the word should be uni-syllabic, and even suggests the addition of the other syllable when necessary, as *od*,—*odic*. When an author does this, and gives his reasons for so doing, surely a translator should act honestly by those who are not able to go to the original work for their information. We object on principle to the course Dr. Gregory has pursued, and moreover we object to the word he has introduced because it will not bear critical examination. What do we want to represent? It is a force or power. We surely, then, ought to choose a word which will do this. Reichenbach did so. But when Dr. Gregory converts *od* into *odyle*, he derives his second syllable from the Greek *ὕλη*, signifying matter, which is just what we do not want to represent. Again, the word will produce confusion, because we have words terminating in the same way in constant use in chemistry, such as *formyle*, *ethyle*, &c., all signifying certain forms and combinations of matter.

In many parts of the work we meet with expressions which, in our opinion, indicate that Dr. Gregory's practical experience is limited. He seems to have obtained a vast portion of the matter descriptive of the phenomena developed during the mesmeric sleep, from the literary productions of others, and we regret that he does not make a practice of recording the authority he quotes from. The beautiful experiments which Dr. Elliotson has described in so many papers in *The Zoist*, are not noticed, as they should have been, by reference and quotation, although we detect over and over again that Dr. Gregory must have perused them, and that Dr. Elliotson is most probably the authority from whom he receives his information. We had marked many passages for comment, but our space warns us to conclude.

At p. 89, there is the following passage:—"If the magnetic sleep has either been followed by any discomfort, or if it has been found difficult to awake a person from the sleep,

this has arisen solely from the inexperience of the operator, who has *rashly* produced a state which he knows not how to control." Now, this is certainly not strictly the fact. The inability to awake a patient may occur to any one, even to the most experienced mesmeriser. It has occurred to us over and over again, and all that is necessary to teach the experimenter is this. In such a predicament, let the patient sleep—no harm can ensue.

At p. 91, we are told "that at Calcutta Dr. Esdaile never fails to magnetize the natives." We believe he has frequently failed.

Dr. Gregory is in error when he supposes that it has not been ascertained whether in ordinary spontaneous somnambulism the sleep-walker remembers his previous acts of somnambulism. In Dr. Elliotson's *Physiology*, p. 368, and in the American edition of Dr. Spurzheim's *Phrenology*, will be found recorded cases, proving that in spontaneous somnambulism, the various attacks of sleep-waking had the memory of each other, as in mesmerism.

But we must conclude. We are convinced that the work will be of great service to the progress of mesmerism. It furnishes a very good, although not a strictly fair, resumé of what has been accomplished; and by bringing Reichenbach's researches to bear upon the higher phenomena of the mesmeric sleep, it will undoubtedly excite the attention of experimenters and prompt them to carefully record their observations.

W. C. ENGLEDEW.

. We are very anxious that the public should know that Dr. Symes's translation of Gall's octavo work on the *Physiology of the Brain*, published in 1824, is now completed, and will appear as soon as the number of Subscribers is sufficient. The work contains a great deal that is not in the Quarto and Folio editions, which were published in 1810-20; and those who purchase the translation will have this advantage over those who possess the original, that they will have the anatomy of the brain and the beautiful and numerous plates of those large editions, originally published at 30 and 40 guineas; whereas no anatomy and no plates accompany the original of this translation. We ourselves know the translation to be faithful, and the additional views of phrenologists since the time of Gall are appended.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Letters to a Candid Enquirer on Animal Magnetism. By William Gregory, M.D., F.R.S.E., Professor of Chemistry in the University of Edinburgh. London: Taylor, Walton and Maberley, Upper Gower Street. 1851.

The Mesmerist's Manual of Phenomena and Practice; with Directions for applying Mesmerism to the Cure of Diseases, and the Methods of producing Mesmeric Phenomena. Intended for domestic use and the instruction of beginners. By George Barth. Second edition. London: Baillière, Regent Street. 1851.

Thoughts on the Nature of Man, the Propagation of Creeds, and the Formation of Human Character. London: Clayton, Strand. 1850. (Second copy.)

The Moral and Religious Guide to the Great Exhibition. London: Longman and Co. 1851.

The Great Exhibition Prize Essay. By the Rev. J. C. Whish, M.A. Incumbent of Trinity Church, East Peckham, Kent. Longman and Co. 1851.

Somnolism and Psychicism; or, the Science of the Soul and the Phenomena of Nervation: as revealed by Vital Magnetism or Mesmerism, considered Physiologically and Philosophically. With Notes of Mesmeric and Psychical Experience. By Joseph W. Haddock, M.D. Second edition, enlarged and illustrated with Engravings. London: Hodson, Portugal Street. 1851.

The Human Body and its connexion with Man. Illustrated by the principal Organs. By James John Garth Wilkinson. London: Chapman and Hall. 1851.

Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister. A Letter to the Lord Bishop of Exeter. By W. Campbell Sleigh, Esq., of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-law. London: Ward and Co. 1851.

The Unit. New York. Three numbers.

Elements of Catholic Philosophy; or, Theory of the Natural System of the Human Mind. London: Longman and Co. 1850.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have again exceeded our limits: and must defer several valuable communications. We wish to do justice to the most meritorious, conscientious, and useful lecturers on mesmerism, Messrs. Jackson and Davy; but could not find time to go through all the recent Irish newspapers, or room in the present number. Nothing shall prevent a due notice of them in our next.

MISS MARTINEAU AND MR. ATKINSON.—We quite agree with *Indignation*, in his letter to us, in which he says,—“I am very glad of the castigation of Atkinson and Martineau. I quite agree with it. Their book is a very impudent production. They treat all other writers and thinkers on the subject in the same way that the Pope does the Anglican bishops. The amount of ignorance displayed by Miss Martineau as to what has been done and thought, is really something marvellous. Her friend has behaved very ill, and in a manner which betokens a decided want of conscientiousness.”

THE INSTITUTE is dead and forgotten. *Cachinnus* should direct his letter of condolence to Mr. Martin, Surgeon, Reigate.

THE ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY's conduct is lamentable. It allows a scientific fact to be pronounced a falsehood, and a fellow-creature to be falsely accused of confessing imposture; but when proofs of the truth of the fact and the falsehood of the accusation of confession are offered, it sturdily refuses to admit the proof or hear a word. Mr. Ward's letter published in our last (p. 106) has been unnoticed by the President: and the Society lies degraded and the wayfarer shakes his head in surprise and pity as he beholds it.

Errata in the last Number.

In Mr. Lloyd's paper, page 53, line 34, for “*obtain* refreshment,” read *take* refreshment. Mr. Lloyd's present address is Fulford, near York.

In Master Mc Alpine's case, page 27, line 20, for “*Osborne*,” read Onslow.

It is our duty to mention that the other case of lumbar abscess reported in July, 1848, No. XXII, as cured, has lately proved fatal: not that the cure was not perfect, but that want of care produced a recurrence of the disease, just as any inflammation may be brought back by carelessness in diet or not guarding against cold, or a broken leg or dislocated shoulder well set and recovered from may be rebroken or redislocated. The poor boy being well acted as though he had never been ill and had as strong a back as any other boy. He rode on horseback to excess, hard and long, and used to terrify persons in the town by entering it so dashingly: and this impetuosity occasioned him to have several falls. His back was not strong enough to stand this; and the parts fell again into inflammation, and suppuration, and all the consequences. This ought to be a grave lesson to patients and those who should guide them.