

THE
PHRENO-MAGNET,
AND
MIRROR OF NATURE.

No. V.

JUNE, 1843.

VOL. I.

RETROSPECT.

Were it only for the stimulation which has been given to THOUGHT by the popular advocacy of Mesmero-Phrenology,—or were it but (as was recently observed by a lecturer here) for the number of experimental philosophers which the discussion of its principles has called into activity from the masses of the people,—great might be the exultation of its friends in their achievements. Never did the promulgation of any scientific doctrine, or the exhibition of any of the phenomena of nature, more induce humanity to think, to inquire, or to investigate for itself. The fact is, a new and rational school of immense influence is being established, in which more may be learned and taught of our nature in a year, than could have been explained on the ancient principles of metaphysics in all time. Being a subject alike important to mankind in every grade and condition, and by no means more indebted for its development to parties inheriting peculiar scholastic privileges than to those who have scarcely been schooled at all—being, in fact, an influence potent and common as air, or heat, or light—every one endowed with ordinary capabilities of thought is led to study its operations upon his own condition and circumstances; and this interest in himself being once awakened, each individual becomes in turn a discoverer, and finds that there can be no more a monopoly of philosophy than of religion and virtue!

We are glad to learn, that not only in London, Liverpool, Leicester, Coventry, Burnley, and other large towns, societies

are being formed for the investigation of Phreno-Magnetic and their kindred phenomena, but that even in many smaller places a spirit of inquiry has been aroused to a degree which promises well. We believe that man has many good faculties which are scarcely ever brought into activity, for the very simple reason that he is ignorant of their existence. It naturally follows, that many new, great, and noble achievements will be brought within his compass when he once becomes acquainted with the fact that he has instincts which give him cognizance of their principles and functions wherewith to carry them out : and there has not yet been any method known so simple, yet so potent, as Phreno-Magnetism for the purpose.

With this belief, we cannot but feel somewhat aggrieved by the many attempts which have recently been made by ill-informed parties to throw mystery around many of the simplest phenomena, and to misrepresent the tendency of others. We have often alluded to the efforts of those who pretend that, because in some stages of somnambulency it is possible by training or suggestion to give a permanent association of certain ideas with local impressions, all Phrenological manifestations are the result of a similar method. Recent experiments tried with the greatest care for the purpose of testing this hypothesis, not only completely upset it, but establish more firmly than ever the possibility of testing, with the nicest accuracy, the distinct existence of the cerebral organs. But another party, to overcome this belief, say that all so-called cerebral manifestations are the result of the operator's will, that of the patient being at the time in immediate sympathy with it. This, however, is utterly disproved by the fact, that parties disbelieving altogether in Phrenology, and operating for the first time upon those who had not themselves the slightest knowledge of it, have, on touching, or even (without contact) pointing to the head, produced effects as corroborative of our right location of the organs as have ever been elicited by the oldest experimentalists. In the same manner, too, the most striking educations have been made of similar phenomena from other parts of the system. There are many parts of the body by touching which in some patients who have been mesmerised we have brought out manifestations of the various human faculties quite as characteristic and decided as those produced by operating upon the cranium alone ; thus, whilst corroborating the elder doctrines of Phrenology, throwing a light upon something beyond them equally remarkable and interesting. This is one of the facts that induce us still to persevere in our own investigations, and to give at the same time due weight to all

other theories and hypotheses, that as great a variety of evidence as possible may be brought to bear upon the question before we commit to the world in an actual form any ideal system which partial experience might seem to qualify, but to which ulterior evidence might give both modification and extension.

DR. ELLIOTSON, MR. BROOKES, THE ZOIST, AND THE NEWSPAPERS.

"Fair play's a jewel." From the unfairness of the *Zoist*, in attacking Mr. Brookes upon the mere authority of an adverse and scurilous newspaper report—and too many newspaper reports on Mesmerism are of that character—we felt bound to insert Mr. Brookes's defence in our last, *verbatim*, which we did without comment. Since, however, his letter contained some allusions to Dr. Elliotson of a nature that would be deemed very harsh by all who did not believe them merited, we have, in justice to the Doctor, to state that at a subsequent interview with him in London, we had his assurance that he neither wrote or suggested the article to which Mr. B. refers, nor did it come under his observation at all till in print. As Dr. E. has given us this disclaimer both orally and by note, we should not have felt justified in going to press without recording it. At the same time we would, in consequence of our own experience, warn not only the *Zoist*, but every scientific journal, against placing the least confidence in adverse newspaper reports of mesmeric experiments. It was only about three weeks ago that a sapient reporter for the *Doncaster Chronicle*, (who betrayed not only his utter ignorance of Phrenology but want of common sense by pertinaciously pressing for a manifestation of the organ of "*Casuality*," which he wrote upon a slip of paper and handed in during some experiments,) attacked us with considerable ferocity without the least provocation. His pretended report was a tissue of falsehoods from beginning to end, as is well known to every candid person in attendance; a fact, however, which might not be so apparent to those who read him at a distance. The *Northampton Herald*, with equal wisdom, a short time since, instead of reporting experiments we tried there, occupied its columns with an extract from the statements of a "*Northern Barrister*" made three or four months previously in the *Provincial Medical Journal*, and which we have so often rebutted and refuted that another word on the subject is now needless. Why should reporters be partisans on a scientific question?

MR. STOCKS AND THE DONCASTER OBSTRUCTIVES.

A short time since, Mr. Stocks, of Sheffield, a highly intellectual but modest mesmeric experimentalist, gave lectures in Doncaster on Phreno-Magnetism. The impression they made appeared pretty satisfactory to all but a few prejudiced people, including two or three medical practitioners, who from the ignorance and silliness they have since displayed, one would think had never graduated but under the surveillance of old women. Two apprentice boys residing in the town, being afterwards mesmerised, from some cause or other a person of the name of Hawthorn offered one of them a bribe to perform, in a waking state, whatever he might instruct him to do. The lad at first said he thought he could not, but would try, and Mister Hawthorn then touched him on various parts of the head and *told* him what to do, with which injunctions he endeavoured to comply. The sapient gentleman then, because the poor lad, *against his own previous belief in its possibility*, had so far obliged him, rushed before the public—proclaimed on the counterfeit evidence he had himself forged that all which they had seen exhibited by Mr. Stocks was imposture, as well as all that had since been shown privately amongst themselves; an abusive attack was made upon all connected with the case, and not only so, but upon ourselves and all connected with Phreno-Magnetism in Doncaster or elsewhere. Having first seen the boys, who were brought to us by Mr. Foster, a very candid gentleman, and proved them by the most subtle and convincing tests to be anything but deceivers, we went down to Doncaster to disabuse the public mind by a display of *facts*, not *counterfeits*: and for that purpose announced a course of lectures, which were numerously attended, Mr. Mason, the Town Clerk, taking the chair on each occasion. As the most absurd misrepresentations and direct falsehoods have been promulgated concerning these lectures, and the experiments by which they were illustrated, by Messrs. Storrs and Lister, surgeons, with their coadjutors on the occasion, Messrs. Hawthorn, Dimaline, Sorsby, and the noodle connected with the *Doncaster Chronicle* to whom we have alluded in another place, we feel bound to give some explanation from another and impartial source. A full report of the proceedings will tend to throw light not only upon several important scientific principles, but will be a record of the nature of that opposition the truth-loving phreno-magnetist has in this

day so often to meet, and we shall, therefore, if possible, give one from an impartial spectator in our next number. A more triumphant victory over folly and falsehood we never witnessed.

FURTHER EXPERIMENTS, BY A PARENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PHRENO-MAGNET.

DEAR SIR,—I perceive you have inserted my letter of the 6th March, in which I stated the progress I had made with my little girl. I have now great pleasure in informing you that on the next trial I succeeded in acting upon all the organs marked on the English bust, *Destructiveness excepted*. I am surprised at this as I have frequently stated my opinion, that if her brain could be excited the most active organ would be Philoprogenitiveness, and Destructiveness the least so. This I had suspected, from the known habits of the child as much as from the development—her extreme love for children, and her reluctance to have anything killed—nay, it was but yesterday that she would not eat a bit of fowl, although it had been sent from home to be killed. I find that Philoprogenitiveness can be acted on by pointing, and yet with a stick of sealing wax it requires contact. A hollow glass tube, one-half inch diameter, seems to concentrate the fluid—if it be a fluid—and pointing with this causes the motion, &c., at a greater distance than with the finger alone. I expect a solid glass rod would require contact the same as the sealing wax, but I have not had an opportunity of trying the experiment. I can cause her to sing any words or song she may know by giving the clue, with Imitation, or any tune she may know by the same means. With Veneration the extemporary prayer made by this child brought tears from one of my own family which I had not seen any other circumstance do from childhood, and mark, she had never been taught any other than the Lord's prayer. To attempt giving an account of the whole effects produced by exciting the organs would extend to several pages, I shall therefore only mention a few of the old ones and then state what were the effects on the new. The long disputed point between phrenologists respecting Inhabitiveness and Concentrativeness was satisfactorily explained by this child. On touching Inhabitiveness she said, "I'll stay at home," "I won't leave home," "I'll stay with my mother and father." On moving my finger a little distance there might be seen the firm concentration of the mind, and she could not be moved from it till blown off in the usual manner.

This proves beyond all doubt that there are two organs. What are the phrenologists doing? Are they afraid of the truth? The cry used to be "Where is the proof?" If this is not proof sufficient I think nothing will convince. The effect on Individuality is really wonderful. With the eyes perfectly closed, and a dark handkerchief over the head, she will name every person in the company, if known by name, and if strangers will describe their dress in the most correct manner, and has even described, in this state, a part of a dress that not one present, *the owner excepted*, was aware of. Many other things of the same kind I could name, particularly in *Clairvoyance*, but it would only tend to encourage scepticism as the public mind is not prepared for this. To see the effect of the organs of eating and drinking is curious. After eating a piece of cake the crumbs were picked up and eaten—even a currant found in the folds of the frock. With Benevolence she would undress herself if not prevented, and actually took off her shoes; you cannot offend her worse than to tell her this. Now for the new organs. The first found was the *love of pets* near *Philoprogenitiveness*. This organ, I see, has been ridiculed in the *Peoples' Phrenological Journal*. *Never mind, they cannot remain long in the dark*: the effect produced was an imaginary cat—stroking it—scratching its head—playing with its ears and tail. The same effect was produced on my eldest daughter, twenty-one years of age. They are both very fond of cats. The effect was very different on a young woman that was operated on at my house: she repulsed it and cried "Cats!" She certainly detests cats, or probably it was the antagonistic organ.

The organ of Industry was next found above Imitation: with this she imitated her sewing at school, picked out the stitches, &c. The organ of Despair, near Hope, *was despair to the truth*. The motion of the fingers in the group of Veneration is, I think, what you stated it to be, *a tendency to religious music*, for on being asked the question, "What are you doing?" she answered, "Playing the music;" this is just what I expected. There are two effects produced which I cannot understand. The first was somewhere about Combativeness; she seized my hand and forced my fingers into her mouth, likewise some money and a brass tube, and I think would have swallowed them. I thought at first it was the effect of Secretiveness, but she never attempted to hide in that manner before. I see in Mr. Sunderland's classification an organ called Ravenousness, I cannot see what this has to do with a human being, but really it looked very much like it. I should like to know if you have

observed anything of the kind. The other was in trying for a psalm tune with Veneration and Tune, when, to my surprise, recitative was produced about lambs, fields, hills, flowers, &c. I think it must have been Ideality and Tune; I have no doubt you could explain it. I will name one other fact. Having noticed in your *Phreno-Magnet* that there was an organ at the corner of the eye for grotesque figures, I made a trial of this and awoke her immediately, this had induced a dream which she remembered. She thought a lanky big-headed man was in the house with a cart of potatoes, an ugly dog was in the cart instead of a horse; she distinctly heard the barking of the dog, the man crying potatoes, and she said, "I do'n't care, I shant have to clean the house." I have tried the same organ twice since, and, what is very singular, the same impression is produced. I have gone to greater length than I intended, or I should have made you acquainted with some experiments with my eldest daughter, of a very interesting nature, but must defer it to another time, if you think it worth notice. One word on cross-magnetism. I have had some doubts on this subject. I have thought it might be policy to keep meddlers away, and a little hint of that kind would keep them in their seats; but an interesting experiment has convinced me of the truth. I find that the arm, &c., of my daughter can be made cataleptic without being put into the magnetic sleep. My son raised the arm by the passes, and I found I could not restore it by the *longitudinal passes*, *lateral passes*, *blowing*, nor *friction*, and yet he restored it with a breath. We reversed the experiment, and I found I could restore it with a breath, but he could not lower it at all. This convinces me that an arm or leg raised by pointing or contact, would take the power from the magnetiser, and it would be necessary to have the assistance of the person who had cross-magnetised it.

If there are any of the above facts that you may think worth recording, to assist in drawing attention to the science, you will oblige me by giving publicity to them.

I remain, Sir, your well wisher,

CHARLES PEMBROOK.

Birmingham, April 3rd, 1843.

[The ingenuousness and earnestness of Mr. Pembroke render his communications at all times welcome. We shall be glad to receive his promised letter, and also to explain, when we see his patients (which we hope will be soon) several things he has alluded to as apparently discrepant.—Ed.]

CASE OF OBSTINATE HERNIA REMOVED BY MESMERIC INFLUENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PHRENO-MAGNET.

SIR,—As the following statement involves considerations of too much value to be disregarded, notwithstanding I am certain that the wrath of the enemies of mesmerism, and the intolerance of the sceptics will be strongly manifested on the occasion, I do not hesitate to forward it for publication in your valuable “Record of Facts, Experiments, and Discoveries, in Phrenology, Magnetism, &c.”

Shakspeare long ago declared that “brevity is the soul of wit;” and, as I am persuaded that when hand in hand with *truth*, it is as likely to constitute the soul of science, I will without further preface submit to your notice a concise report of a case of painful and obstinate hernia removed by magnetic manipulations, and but for which, it is fair to conclude that the knife of the surgeon alone could have preserved the life of the patient.

Miss ****, aged 20, and of delicate constitution, had during several days suffered acutely from a *painful elongated tumor, which had suddenly occurred in the inguinal region of the left side*. Her nights had been sleepless, and her whole system began to sympathise severely from fever, &c., caused by the strangulated condition of the hernia. Her delicacy alone had thus far operated to exclude every species of medical advice, but as the intensity of her sufferings was rapidly increasing, a friend who knew that she had on former occasions been frequently thrown into the mesmeric trance for experimental purposes by myself, suggested that it should be resorted to as a means of preventing pain during the surgical effects now supposed to be unavoidable for the purpose of reducing the tumor. However, before any professional assistance had actually been called, I was requested to visit her; and while leaning over the chair in which she was reclining, and addressing to her some words of sympathy, it occurred to me that passes made in the direction opposed to that from which the tumor had advanced, might possibly influence its return without inducing the trance, and proceeding to what is surgically called the *facis*; especially as the patient had for some time previously become extremely susceptible of magnetic agency. Accordingly I waved my hand two or three times at a distance of eight or ten inches over the affected side, when the patient exclaimed, “Oh, oh!” I asked what she complained of when her reply was, “I can feel something from your hand.” This of course was

to me highly satisfactory, and I repeated the passes until the pain occasioned thereby became so acute that the patient appeared nearly exhausted, and in order to give relief I pointed to the epigastrium and at once brought on the *coma*. While in the latter state, I enquired if I were doing good? The reply was, "I can distinctly feel the swelling contract as your hand moves upwards, and quite a third of it appears to have retired." The restorative manipulations were now performed, and the patient being fully awake assured me that the swelling was not near so large, and that much of the pain had left her. She was requested to remain as tranquil as possible, and next day, *while in the magnetic state*, the operation was repeated with similar advantage; it was had recourse to again on the third day, under precisely similar conditions, and at this sitting every vestige of the hernia had disappeared, and I had the satisfaction to witness my patient walk across the room with perfect ease. I will just add that as soon as the hernia had completely retired I made a few passes in a cross direction over the aperture from which it had descended, and, from the sensations experienced by the patient, I presume I may conclude that this last operation had the effect of more decidedly closing the original opening, and securing her from a second descent when resuming the walking position.

From not being myself a professor of either medicine or surgery, I regret exceedingly that the *diagnostic character of this case* should rest solely upon my own authority. As respects the facts in connexion therewith, I will, however, yield to no one; and I am at liberty privately to refer any *disinterested and impartial inquirer* to such individuals as will amply justify every particular of the preceding statement.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

J. R. SUMMERS.

Chatham, 10th May, 1843.

PHRENOLOGICAL EXPERIMENTS AT LIVERPOOL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PHRENO-MAGNET.

SIR,—As we find upon the establishing or perfecting of any new science or system, that there is always a loud cry for "facts," from both the sceptic and slow-thinking portion of society, I think it is our duty, for the sake of truth and the advancement of science, to make known and register each of the simple facts as they present themselves to our notice; by which means it will, besides exciting other experimentalists

to test their validity, stimulate them to further speculation and enquiry; and thus, perhaps, open a new field of thought.

Upon these considerations it is that I intrude the following Phreno-Magnetic experiments upon your notice, which I made upon the organs of Size and Colour. The patient whom I operated upon is my sister. She manifests the functions of the several organs with perfect distinctness; for when each organ is excited, her phraseology, with but few exceptions, is sure to contain the very words the organs are named by, by the phrenologists. Therefore I think we may rely upon the correctness of the experiments.

I first operated upon Wit, which made her laugh heartily: I then combined Size, when she exclaimed, "What a big funny fellow!" I now took particular notice what part of Size my finger was upon, and found it to be upon the outer extremity close to Weight. I then moved my finger to the other extremity of the organ close to Form, and said, "And is he such a big fellow?" to which she replied, "O no, he is *little*." "How little?" at the same time having moved my finger to the other extremity of the organ, close to weight. "O no, he is *big*, rather *bigger* than me." "He is rather bigger than you?" at the same time I again moved my finger towards Form. "O no, he is *less* than me, he is such an *insignificant* fellow, &c." I continued this experiment alternately as above, for several times, in the presence of several persons, with equally satisfactory results. I have made the above experiment several times with equal success. One time was in the presence of highly respectable parties, some of whom were phrenologists, others Phreno-Magnetic operators; at which time I again combined Wit with Size, upon which she described the person as being "a *big* soft fellow." I now moved my finger to where I considered the very extremity of Size, as close as possible to Form, when she burst into a laugh, held out her hand, put up her thumb and said, "What an *insignificant little* fellow, not bigger than *Tom Thumb*." I then gradually moved my finger towards the other extremity of Size, right up to Weight. This last act was accompanied by her gradually raising her hand until it was above the level of her head, when she suddenly exclaimed, with a laugh, "Oh! he has *sprung up* like a mushroom, he is such a *big* fellow." I then alternately moved my fingers from one extreme of the organ to the other, which produced invariably the same corresponding results. The other organ I made similar experiments upon was Colour, combined with Wit; upon touching the inner portion of the organ, close to Weight, with a sixpence, she described the

person as having on "very light grey trousers." The middle portion of the organ being touched, they became "darker and variegated." The outer portion next to order being touched, she said they were "quite dark," they were "black." These experiments were again alternately repeated, which produced the like effects. Further experiments I expect with this organ will prove more satisfactory.

It must be evident, from the above experiments, that each organ or division, as now marked by phrenologists, must be subdivided into an indefinite number of ultimate elements, each element having its own peculiar function to perform. To arrive at ultimates our mind is not capable of; nevertheless we are not to be deterred from leaving the beaten track and entering upon the legitimate deductions that these, apparently simple facts, enforce upon the mind. Let us fearlessly examine them, and endeavour with perseverance to arrive as near at ultimates as our powers of penetration will admit.

Yours respectfully,

EDWARD JONES.

Liverpool, May 12th, 1843.

P.S.—I have produced, by gentle friction, some decided manifestations of the organs, upon several individuals, the most of whom I have not been able to throw into the magnetic sleep. By exciting Alimentiveness, it seems rather to promote digestion, and gives an increased appetite for food. Constructiveness being excited, in the majority of cases a peculiar sensation is immediately felt to travel down the arm to the finger ends, with an involuntary moving of the fingers, followed by a strong mental impulse to be sewing, and "getting through work." Weight, an heaviness of the head, with an inclination to sleep. Acquisitiveness, "a desire to push on in the world." And so on with the majority of the organs.

I have invariably found the mesmeric patient, much more capable of being thrown into the magnetic state, and likewise the Phreno-Magnetic manifestations much more distinct and active, when the operator and patient have taken a little of any of the stimulating drinks, either wine, or ale, &c., previous to commencing operations. And likewise a heated apartment, and a warm state of body of both patient and operator seem equally as essential to ensure complete success.

MR. POTCHETT'S PHRENO-MAGNETIC NOTES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PHRENO-MAGNET.

SIR,—The following are a few of the results I have obtained from numerous experiments, often repeated, under various circumstances, and where every precaution has been used to prevent impressions being conveyed to the brain through the senses, in any way calculated to favour preconceived opinions, or to confirm any known theory, the only object sought to be obtained being that of *Truth*. That the state of Clairvoyance is fully proved few seemed prepared to admit, yet I do not think persons justified in rejecting it, as being beneath the notice of strict philosophical investigation and research. It is true the subject is so surrounded with difficulties, that we are as much at a loss as ever to account for the various phenomena produced, and I therefore think a record of facts preferable to raising hypotheses, at least with the present information we possess.

To obtain the effects termed Clairvoyant, the patient is thrown into the ordinary magnetic state and seated on a chair, or reclining on a bed or sofa, the operator desiring the magnetised to examine the internal condition of the patient placed on the left, right, or as it may be, and to state the results; or he may desire an answer to any question he may put in reference to any particular organization. Some having their eyes bandaged and the room darkened operate more favourably; with others daylight, or candle light, or darkness makes but little difference. The eyes being touched makes language the stronger.

The following were examined by Miss M. R.

1. Mr. A——. Heart sound, Lungs right, Liver good, Stomach very narrow and rather out of order together with the Bowels—Brain, some blood towards the back part, near the bottom of it.

2. Mrs. D——. Lungs sound, Liver small and shrivelled, Heart right but feeble, Stomach not in good order, Bowels deranged, Kidneys bad, very bad; will never get better—O! no, never.

Mr. S——. Lungs much inflamed—ought to get advice as it might be attended with danger—Heart sound, Liver good but very large—thinks it too large,—Stomach and Bowels disordered—is almost certain the person has taken medicine.

The following were examined by Mrs. C. about a fortnight afterwards:—

4. Mrs. H——. who was ill in bed at her own home, and under medical treatment, and who imagined she should never get better—made up her mind for the worst, but was anxious

to be examined, which was done. Lungs inflamed, Liver not amiss, heart good and sound, Stomach and Bowels out of order, Kidneys rather affected, Bladder slightly so—lower part of the body, some obstruction of a darkish colour, not in the bowels or bladder.

5. Mrs. B——. Stomach not right, Bowels bad, Lungs spotted and not good, Liver shrivelled and of a bad colour, Heart Oh, very bad! dreadfully bad! it seems covered with water—Oh, what a quantity of water! Kidneys not as they should be.

6. Mr. A—— again. Stomach and Bowels good, but seem to have been out of order lately; Lungs, Liver, Heart, Kidneys, Bladder, Spine all sound, Brain, rather bloody lowish down towards the back part of it.

7. Mr. H——. Every thing right and in good order—apparently quite healthy—Liver appears rather large.

Mrs. H——, Mr. A——, and Mrs. B—— were re-examined by Miss M. R——, who was not in the house during the former examinations, or at all acquainted with the results.

8. Mrs. H——. Very feverish—Lungs slightly inflamed, Heart and Liver sound, Stomach and Bowels out of order, Bowels very much so, Kidneys not quite right; there is a dark substance in the lower part of the body, but not in the Bowels; cannot tell what it is—it ought to be got rid of.

9. Mr. A——. All right, but rather fluttered; Brain appears fringed with blood in some parts towards the back part of the head.

10. Mrs. B. Lungs not healthy, of a bad colour—Liver bad, small and shrivelled, and of an unhealthy yellowish colour—Heart—Oh, what a bad Heart! Oh dear what a sight! It looks frightfully bad. Here she (Miss M. R——) fell a crying and sobbing bitterly, though they were not relatives, neither did she know at the time who it was; consequently it appeared adviseable to de-magnetise her; and when she recovered she said, "Oh what a Heart! Whose was it? It was sickening."

The following were examined on another occasion by Miss E. R——:

11. Mr. A——. The same as Nos. 3, 6, and 9.

12. Mrs. D——. The same as before (No. 2); the liver being shrivelled and the kidneys very bad, and never likely to mend, with the addition of the spine being rather distorted.

13. Miss G——. Brain appears very full, Lungs, Liver, Heart, Kidneys, all good and very fat, Heart rather small, Stomach very foul—it looks filthy; Throat and Tongue affected, and bowels disordered.

N.B. Mr. A. has always been subject to great giddiness and stupefaction, the result of an injury on the brain when about twenty years of age; the stomach is known to be very small, and of weak digestive powers.

Mrs. D—— possesses a very delicate frame of body, and has for years suffered severely from pains in the kidneys and weakness of the back, and has found the spine really distorted.

Mr. S—— had at the time a large blister on his back, and had taken medicine, being under medical treatment for inflammation of the lungs, &c. though then unknown, being in apparent good health.

Miss G——. Stomach and bowels found to be as described.

Mrs. H—— who had not lived in Nottingham more than about six weeks, felt much composed after the examination, and in a day or two afterwards was relieved by getting rid of the substance alluded to, a circumstance not unusual accompanying married females; is now quite well.

Mrs. B—— has been treated by several of the faculty for water on the Heart, diseased Liver, &c., and is fully assured the description is perfectly correct.

Mrs. C—— is quite unacquainted with the anatomy of the human frame. Miss E. R—— knows but little of it. Miss M. R—— possesses a very good general knowledge of anatomy, yet she is the most hesitating when describing the different states of the bodily functions.

Yours, &c.

JOHN POTCHETT.

Snenton, near Nottingham, May 15, 1843.

EXPERIMENTS AT BIRMINGHAM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PHRENO-MAGNET.

DEAR SIR,—In the first number of the Phreno-Magnet—which I had not the pleasure of seeing until yesterday—you mention the name of Mr. A. Knight, whose organs you acted upon without throwing him into a state of somnolence—I had afterwards the pleasure of magnetising that gentleman when he evinced a peculiar manifestation, that appears so contradictory in its character that I am at a loss to account for it.

I threw him into somniphany by lateral manipulation, the first time the organs did not answer, the second they gave very marked manifestations in accordance with their phrenological character, until I pressed the organ of *Veneration*, under the influence of which he rose from his chair, and most enthusiastically *picked my pocket!* retaining the purloined articles with

a tenacity of grasp that rendered all attempts to recover them futile, until I pressed Benevolence, and the usual effects occurred. I had also the pleasure of magnetising another gentleman upon whom you had operated, (Mr. Hutton,) who is exceedingly susceptible. I obtained in this instance the required manifestations till I came to *Veneration*, when a strong feeling of aversion and repulsion was displayed, Mr. H. turning completely round away from me, moving his head uneasily, in order to shake off the pressure, exclaiming at the same time, "It wout do—its of no use—take your hand away." &c.

Perhaps it may be in your power satisfactorily to explain these extraordinary phenomena. In the case of Mr. H. the results certainly might be referred to the action of the negative or antagonist feeling that you have shewn to accompany each organ, but with Mr. K. the case is essentially different, and unless we suppose that in a case where the organ acted upon is weak and small, the magnetic influence glances off and affects indirectly a larger and more susceptible organ. The fact here recorded would seem to favour the opinions of the anti-phrenologists, who contend that the brain is homogenous, and that all attempts to point out certain portions as the organs of certain actions and feelings, are vain and ridiculous.*

I have since repeatedly acted upon various individuals of both sexes with the most satisfactory results.

The actions resulting from the pressure of Philoprogenitiveness in two females I remarked as very beautiful and true to nature. One of them, an unmarried lady of twenty, under its influence caressed with every mark of affection a neighbour's child that she was in the habit of playing with, while the other, who had been recently married, laughed with joy at the vision of a lovely little girl that she said was lying in her lap, and then raising her hands, strove, with repeated efforts, to pull down the unyielding front of her dress, in order to give the dear thing the breast. The same lady evinced Clairvoyance, and read painfully, but distinctly, a portion of Scripture, and a paragraph or two of some religious work; in the first case, when she was awake; and, questioned, she stated that she had not read herself, but only heard some one read the chapter. In the second case, she complained that during the reading a pain was felt as though the chest and back bone were pressed strongly together. She also tasted and felt through the magnetiser, and

* We think both manifestations not only explicable but very interesting. The organs influenced in both cases were *negatives*. It was not *Veneration*, but the negative one to *Generosity* influenced in Mr. Knight. What had *suggestion*, or the operator's *will* either, to do here? Perhaps some of our Phrenological opponents will answer this.—ED.

though only in the somnolent state about twenty minutes, attested that it seemed to be a whole day since she sat down to be operated upon.

I again threw two ladies to sleep at the same time, and touched Tune in each, when they commenced singing a very beautiful melody—"What fairy like music,"—taking first and seconds, and singing with a taste and feeling that in their waking state—though not deficient in sensibility—they were never able to attain. As the pressure was removed they ceased, and on its being renewed, after a considerable interval, took up the words and the tune precisely where they had left off. I then took my fingers from one of them and let the other continue the song till she was considerably in advance, then replacing my fingers on the first she went on again from where she had stopped—a line and a half behind—thus producing a most laughable discord, and so they continued to the end of the song. Each complained on awaking that she thought she was singing with some one who mangled the words and the tune in such a manner, that it was quite painful to hear.

If you think these crude remarks capable of affording any instruction or eliciting any truth, you will oblige by their insertion in your valuable and novel periodical. I am now perfectly convinced, from observation and experience, that the phenomena displayed in your experiments, which I at first considered merely the result of careful training and secret collusion, are the genuine and unsophisticated operations of nature, however much they may appear at first sight to be at variance with it, and though the facts elicited by Phreno-magnetism may in its infancy assume the character of discrepancies and contradictions, yet when all the dispersed fragments, the scattered limbs, and the inert atoms of truth are gathered and joined by labour, by enthusiastic perseverance, and the learned spirit of minute observation, the symetrical and perfected body will draw all eyes and all hearts towards it, and error and delusion will fly to their kindred shades, and never more rustle their demon wings upon the wide plains of regenerated earth.

With the best wishes, yours very truly,

Birmingham, April 4th, 1843.

J. C. JAMES.

PHRENO-MAGNETIC INVESTIGATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PHRENO-MAGNET.

SIR,—As Phreno-Magnetism is a new science, it has excited the attention of many respectable individuals in this city, (York.) Notwithstanding the facility offered them to investigate its

interesting phenomena, there still exists a diversity of opinions respecting them. One believes in Phrenology, another in Magnetism, a third in both though not in conjunction. There are others highly excited on the subject who do not believe in either, and would rather censure those that are earnestly seeking for the truth as imposters, or what is still worse, dealers in Satanic influence. The majority of these sceptics we generally find to be such as have protested against the science from its infancy, and are now ashamed to come forward and proclaim that they are convinced; or those that have the organs of Self-Esteem and Firmness so predominant as to cause them to see their own opinions always the heaviest, when weighed with those of a Phreno-Magnetiser.

I find no fault with such requirements, but I do certainly think, that they who would stand before us as candid observers, should reserve their censures, and not tread under their feet (before they are sufficiently informed) that which is promising so much for our welfare. I will for the present take my leave of the unconvinced, only soliciting those who are desirous of eliciting the truth to try for themselves, and then to bring before us such facts as they obtain from strict observation; for it is very desirable that we should heap together as large a mass of facts as possible, so that by comparing these facts, we may be enabled to lay down some more general rules, whereby the science may be studied with greater advantage.

When, Sir, you gave your last course of lectures in York, there were some that enquired if those manifestations could be produced on a juvenile as easily as an adult. This question you answered in the affirmative, and I have since been convinced of the validity of your statement, having produced nearly all the manifestations from a boy ten years old, that I saw you produce during your lectures on your very susceptible patient (Wilmot.) The patient I have operated upon has light hair, light blue eyes, fair complexion, health generally good. There is nothing peculiar in his phrenological developments; he has what a Phrenologist would term a fine head for a boy of that age.

It was not before the third effort that I succeeded in magnetising this subject, although he had been magnetised previously by Mr. Glenn. I have magnetised him since seven or eight times, and he is now so susceptible as to be thrown into a deep magnetic sleep in fifteen seconds, or rather into a state of somniphathy, for at the will of the operator, he can be made to move in any direction; i. e., by the operator willing him to move and then placing himself in any position that he would

the patient should assume. This I have tried both by standing in front of the patient and behind him, and even with his eyes bandaged; it always had the desired effect, although somewhat slower when I stood behind him. If he takes hold of one end of a bar of steel and the operator the other, he cannot leave loose, his arm becomes rigid in a few seconds, and he falls into a deep magnetic sleep in about a minute. He feels no effect from taking hold of a glass tube with the operator. When demagnetised he remembers nothing that has passed, but what he has been told to remember by the operator; for instance, if I say, to-morrow you must read the 4th chapter of St. Mark, he remembers nothing of it till the precise time, when he feels singularly inclined to read that particular chapter, either aloud or to himself, just as he has been told to read. The following is a brief sketch of the manifestations that I have elicited on this subject. I excited Worship, he rose from his seat, then fell on his knees and folded his hands in an attitude for prayer; with Language, he exclaimed, "Oh! ye powers, shower down your choicest blessings on his head." I excited Self-Esteem; he then arose from his knees, and walked about with such an air of consequence as to be appreciated should be seen. In conjunction with Firmness and Language, he stood in a commanding attitude, and gave orders for Wellington to proceed with his army and overthrow the enemy in the camp;—on being asked who he was, he exclaimed, "I am the king of England, Ireland, and Scotland." I next excited Acquisitiveness, and he picked my pocket of some silver coin;—excited Benevolence, he then gave it to me, and took from his pocket his knife and some other articles. With Language he was sorry he had not more to give me;—re-excited Acquisitiveness, and he grasped my hand and said the money, &c., were his, and he would have them. After he had obtained them, which he did by a surprising effort, for I held them very fast in my hand, I excited Self-Esteem, he threw them on the floor, and walked off, as if he thought too much of himself to be seen in such an action. I excited Conscientiousness; he then began to seek what he had previously disowned; they were given to him by one of the party who had taken them up, and he returned the silver to the pocket from which he had taken it. Excited Tragedy in conjunction with Language; after throwing himself into an expressive attitude, he exclaimed, "Tis my turn now," and rushed forward. I have also excited the functions of Mirthfulness, Cautiousness, Time, Tune, Colour, Number, Philoprogenitiveness, Love of Pets, with others that displayed

themselves in acts of Childishness, Manliness, Suavity, Friendship, Industry, Imitation, Walking, Riding, Driving, Sliding, Skating, Leaping, Aërostation, Flying, Climbing, Shooting with cross-bow, Slinging, Spearing, Pulling, Sculling, and many others.

Yours, respectfully,

GEORGE SMITH.

York, March 31st, 1843.

PRIVATE EXPERIMENTS IN PHRENO-MAGNETISM.

The following, which appeared in the *Liverpool Albion* of May 8, we gladly insert in our Repository, as very good evidence in favour of Phreno-Magnetism, inasmuch as the manifestations described were so clearly educed, apparently without suggestion of the faintest kind :—

SIR,—Since the occasion of Mr. Spencer Hall's first lecture on the subject of Phreno-Magnetism, delivered at our Mechanics' Institution, many private individuals have attempted, and with varied success, to produce, in others, phenomena similar to those exhibited by his patients. I have myself partially succeeded; and am acquainted with several other gentlemen of this town whose zeal and perseverance have been rewarded by the evolution of even more wonderful results than those produced by Mr. Hall. In no case which I have seen or heard of however, have the phrenological manifestations been adduced more completely, or under circumstances more calculated to allay suspicion of deception, than in the case detailed in the following letter, which I have just received from a friend in the country, whom I had the pleasure of introducing to the subject, in this town, several weeks ago. The good faith of the writer, who is a young gentleman of high character, talent and literary attainments, may be implicitly relied on. As I have not his authority for publishing his letter, I suppress the names of the experimenters, and that of their "local habitation;" but, in other respects, the following is a literal transcript of the original.

That you may be able to satisfy any candid inquirer, however, of the *bona fide* character of this communication, I hand you my own name and address, and remain, Sir, yours, &c.

L.

—, April, 17th, 1843.

MY DEAR SIR,—When I last had the pleasure of seeing you, I promised to inform you of my success, if any, in Phreno-Magnetism. In a day or two after seeing you I tried my elder sister, and, in about three minutes, threw her into the mesmeric state, but could not succeed in educing any mental manifestations. A second attempt was also in vain, so that I was led to give her up as not a good subject. Afterwards, I one evening made an attempt upon one of our young men, and, in about ten minutes, a convulsive quivering was apparent about the eyes, and the weight of the eyelids was evidently becoming insupportable. In short he was just passing into the mesmeric sleep, when a loud noise in the street caused him to awake, and I did not again try him. He shortly afterwards, in company with the other young men, went to his bed-room,

and, as I expected, to *bed*. In a few minutes, however, one of his companions came down stairs, stating that George (for that is his name) was fast asleep, he having completely mesmerised him by doing as he had seen me do in the sitting-room. To his bed-room we accordingly all hurried, where I found him in a chair, *fast enough*; and, on informing the young fellow who had acted as mesmeriser where to put his fingers, we had a most beautiful manifestation of all the organs that were touched; which I consider the more interesting and important, because, both operator and patient were ignorant of phrenology, and not acquainted with the situation or function of any single one of the cerebral organs. Philoprogenitiveness, Destructiveness, Acquisitiveness, Self-esteem, Approbativeness, Benevolence, Veneration, Firmness, Wit, and Tune were successively excited, and the manifestations were, in every respect, equal, and in some decidedly superior, to Calderwood's which I witnessed in Liverpool. I need not tell you that I was delighted; I literally *danced about the room* for joy. A young collegian, too, who was on his way from Cambridge into Shropshire, to spend the Easter vacation with his friends, and who is a good phrenologist, happened to be spending the evening with me. He has latterly been so absorbed in his studies that he knew nothing of the important confirmation of phrenology afforded by mesmerism, and was equally delighted with myself at what he saw.

In a few days after this took place, I invited two or three medical friends and my old opponent, the Rev. S. —, to come and witness some experiments on this young man; and, accordingly, on Thursday evening last the affair took place. The individual who had operated before was the mesmeriser; and it was arranged beforehand, that, in order to do away with even the suspicion of collusion, a printed list of the organs should be in the room, and Mr. — should point to the names of the organs to be excited, without mentioning them orally, when I was to direct the operator as to the part of the head to be touched, the strictest silence all the while being preserved. This plan was, therefore, adopted, and *with the most signal success*. In addition to the organs tried on the former occasion, those of Alimentiveness, Combativeness, Cautiousness, and Imitation were also excited, without a single failure. All were pleased, but — was completely staggered and confounded. He said that he had all his life opposed phrenology, both in public and private, but he could not get over such evidences as these. He has at once thrown down his arms, and is entering into Phreno-Magnetism with all the ardour of his enthusiastic mind. He was with me again on Saturday, and we are going to make farther experiments in the subject conjointly. On Thursday next we propose trying some young men from one of the manufactories here, and the physician of the Dispensary will try to get us some epileptic patients from there. Should I not be successful as a magnetiser, I am convinced that — *will be*. He is of the right temperament, (bilious nervous,) and is a man of extraordinary physical strength and mental energy. Should we accomplish anything of importance, I will drop you another line. You would be astonished at the sensation which the thing has already caused in the town. It is the first time anything of the kind has been attempted here, and it has spread, like magic through the whole place.

On Thursday evening I was a good deal struck with the manifestations of Benevolence, which seemed both to — and myself, to establish the fact, that what is marked "13" must really be two organs. When the hinder part of that space was touched, the patient drew from his

pocket a penny, but, instead of giving it away, held it in his left hand and kept striking it with the forefinger of his right hand, as though he were anxious to impress the beings whom he saw, or fancied he saw, with a sense of its importance; but the moment that the front of the organ was touched, he sighed deeply, gave away the penny, and, constantly ejaculating "Poor things! poor things!" cleared his pocket of all their contents. I was surprised, too, at one of the features in the action of Alimentiveness. When Acquisitiveness was touched, he pocketed every thing he could reach, and, among other things, a silver spoon. When Alimentiveness was afterwards excited, after sundry smackings of the lips, he drew forth the *silver spoon* from his pocket and appeared to be feeding himself with it most voraciously. When asked what he was doing, he answered, amid the laughter of all present, that he was "eating *mock turtle*, and that it was *very good*." Now, the act of going to his pockets for the spoon, which had been secreted previously, when Acquisitiveness was excited, was an act of *memory*. He *knew* that he had the spoon, and, though his eyes were closed, evidently knew what it was. This is the first case I have heard of in which a distinct act of memory has taken place during the mesmeric state; and should be glad to learn from yourself if similar acts are of frequent occurrence.

You can scarcely conceive the pleasure which I feel in now being associated with so talented and fierce an opponent as — in investigating this deeply interesting subject.

* * * * *

Believe me, &c.

CASE AT NOTTINGHAM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PHRENO-MAGNET.

SIR,—A young lady of piety and modesty, whose name I am forbidden to mention, being desirous to know something of Mesmerism, very kindly submitted herself, in the presence of two of her friends, to my influence. Seating herself on a chair in the centre of the parlour, I told her to look at a little thing on the mantel piece: she did so, but for the most part kept smiling at her friends, and like them disbelieving all the while. Ten minutes elapsed, when she was heard quickly breathing, as though going into a gentle sleep; then her eyes began to shoot upwards. Bye-and bye, a long and heavily-drawn sigh and a drooping head told that she was gone—and now she sat apparently as lifeless as a corpse. All was done in less than 20 minutes. By the advice of her friends, I was only allowed to try a few of the most humane organs, and these were most beautifully and strikingly displayed, so as to call forth the most nervous expressions of feeling from her companions, and indeed from myself as well. There was not anything greatly differing from the usual order, excepting that on touching her lips in four parts, she clearly shewed forth four distinct passions; and having accidentally touched her cheek, she groaned very loudly, so that it was thought desirable to awaken her. She had been asleep about forty minutes, and was awakened by gentle fannings. She soon came to herself, but was full of doubts, when we told her she had been phreno-magnetised. However, we soon convinced her of the truth, and greatly abashed she was when informed of all she had done while in the abnormal state.

HENRY WATKINSON.

Nottingham, April 14, 1843.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON
DR. BUCHANNAN'S "NEUROLOGICAL EXPERIMENTS,"
AT BOSTON, NEW ENGLAND.

We had for this month prepared a mass of original matter, founded more especially on our own experience; but having been favoured through a scientific friend with the following intelligence, and deeming it of great importance to all lovers of truthful investigation, irrespective of the names by which its results are called, we feel bound to give it immediate insertion. A series of experiments performed by us with similar care in the name of Phreno-Magnetism, or Mesmero-Phrenology, will shortly follow; and till the greatest possible variety of evidence on the subject can be fairly compared, we beg of our readers to keep all theory in suspension. There are many, no doubt, who will smile at the nomenclature to which Dr. Buchannan and the Committee have had recourse, because in several instances it may seem absurd; but as "a rose by any other name would smell as sweet," so will any animal or mental function perform its office truly, give it what name soever we may. Let us then first register the *phenomena*: the propriety of their names may be discussed at leisure, and their real nature be determined by the analogy they bear to others educed under similar circumstances. If the report had not reached us at too late a period for such an arrangement, we should have published a double number, for the purpose of giving a greater quantity of other interesting matter. We regret, however, its impracticability, which we trust will, under the circumstances, be excused by our numerous correspondents, one of whom has suggested the propriety of an enlargement—a subject we have for some time been considering. We proceed to give the Report verbatim, without the slightest comment at present upon the peculiar hypothesis it involves, referring the reader to our first number for an account of the mode by which Dr. B. throws his patients into a susceptible state.

The following are the results of the experiments made in presence of a committee appointed for the purpose of examining into the subject of the science of neurology. The committee are not prepared to state their views as to its merits. It requires the test of further time, of a greater number of experiments, and of minuter investigation, than they as yet have been able to bestow upon it. Their intention is to continue the examination, and in due time to state their conviction.

They would, however, state to the public that, during their sessions, the experiments have been conducted, on the part of Dr. Buchanan, with the utmost candour and fairness. He has evinced great courtesy, as well as zeal, in the exposition of his opinions, and the committee have unanimously, in a vote of thanks to him, embodying the above sentiments, expressed their satisfaction.

Tremont House, April 1.—Present, Drs. Ingalls, J. Flint, Crane, Gray, Cale, Dorr, Lane, and Bowditch.

After some conversation as to the objects of the meeting, &c., it was voted that Drs. H. I. Bowditch and Dorr act as Secretaries, and the following record was made:—

Weather exceedingly unpleasant, cold, with a fine, misty rain, and some snow during the afternoon.

One of the committee, of small stature, rather frail figure, and of impressive temperament, consented to allow Dr. Buchanan to experiment upon him. He feels very well, in every respect; pulse 72; whole appearance that of a man in health and easy frame of mind, at the time of commencing the experiment. He informs the committee that he has been experimented upon once before by Dr. Buchanan, but that, though certain effects were produced upon him, he knows not whether the experiments were successful or otherwise; that he has purposely abstained from examining into the subject of neurology, in order that any results deduced from operating upon himself may be not influenced, in the least, by his imagination, that might be excited from the anticipation of certain effects to be produced by certain manipulations; that, on the former occasion, when Dr. B. experimented on him, he experienced the following effects, viz. sleep, nausea almost to the point of vomiting; a peristaltic motion of the alimentary canal, with desire for a dejection; a relief to a thirst that had previously existed, a change in the desire for food, viz. from a farinaceous to meat diet.

4h. 50m. Experiment 1. Organ of Somnolence, (pointed out by Dr. Buchanan upon the diagram, without knowledge of patient.)

Two minutes after Dr. B. placed his hand upon that organ, Dr. —'s face presented evident marks of dulness, and though the eyes were staring, and the eyelids were generally kept fully open, a winking was observed at times, which gradually augmented in frequency. The patient seemed to find it hard to keep the eyelids open. Gaping soon began, at first very slight and scarcely perceptible save in the peculiar twitches about the mouth, but soon this increased to the full, unrestrained yawn.

"How do you feel?" was asked by one of the committee.

"I have a disposition to yawn. I can keep awake because I am determined to do so, but it is hard work."

Soon afterwards on a similar question being put, he replied—

"I am doing my best to keep awake."

In fact, this was very evident, as the patient presented all the appearances of one making great efforts to overcome a fit of drowsiness—his eyelids drooped, his face was somewhat flushed, and the veins in the forehead were distended.

"What is the state of your mind?" "My mind is very quiet, but I feel as if I should go to sleep, and *should* do so were it not for surrounding circumstances.

At the expiration of five minutes from the commencement of the experiment, he said, to a question* that was put—

"I feel perfectly conscious of what is going on, at the same time I feel as if I wanted to shut my eyes and go to sleep—my eyes are covered with a secretion of tears; they are easier when shut."

*It is to be regretted that many of the questions were not recorded, as they were given too rapidly. Subsequently it will be perceived that this objection is obviated by having two Secretaries, one for the answers, the other for the questions.

This secretion had become very abundant, so that it flowed over the face, and the eyes were beginning to be kept closed most of the time. Nodding of the head, with signs of almost complete unconsciousness, came on at the 10th minute. For a moment he seemed perfectly asleep, and Dr. B. then removed his hands. Upon recovering himself, which he did, to a partial extent, in less than a minute, he remarked that he had been conscious of what was going on around him, all the time, except, perhaps, during a very short period. He did not recover immediately, but the inclination to yawn continued, in spite of his evident wish to restrain it.

During the whole experiment, Dr. J. Flint had his fingers upon the pulse, and the following results were noted at the time by Dr. Dorr:—

Pulse 74 at beginning of experiment, viz. 4 p.m. 50m.

" 68 at " 4 " 58

" 64 and of less volume at termination
of experiment, viz. 5 " 0

Experiment 2.—Patient being still drowsy, as shown by his own feelings, and his whole demeanor, his dull countenance and suppressed gaping, Dr. Buchanan, three or four minutes after the termination of the first experiment, began the second by touching the organ of Vigilance (having previously pointed to it on the diagram, in such a manner that the patient could not possibly have known which organ was referred to; in fact, Dr. B., in some few remarks, rather led the patient to believe that something different was to be done from merely arousing him.)

In two minutes his countenance became brighter and more determined; a natural healthful expression came over it; the congestion of the face and forehead disappeared. Still there remained some disposition to gape, but it was much less, and evidently was diminishing, until seven minutes had elapsed, when the eyelids had totally lost their heaviness, the lachrymal secretion had gone; and upon being asked as to his feelings he replied, "I feel nothing, except that I feel well."

The pulse was natural at this time. As recorded by Dr. Dorr, it was as follows:—

Pulse 80, fuller and stronger, at 5 p.m. 10m.

" 70, variable at the end of experiment.

[*Note by Dr. Buchanan.*—In touching the organ of Somnolence, the figures usually cover also the *optic sensæ*, which is just below, and which greatly increases the sensibility of the eyes, producing often a smarting or painful sensation in them, which in some cases makes them water.]

Experiment 3.—Disease excited.—(Dr. B. did not mention the organ previous to making the experiment, but by comparing the position of his fingers with the location of the organ of Disease as seen on the diagram, it was inferred that that was the organ to be operated upon. After the experiment was finished, Dr. B. confirmed the committee in their opinion.)

In two minutes, upon being asked how he felt, the patient replied—"I feel slight nausea—a slight pain here," pointing to the pit of the stomach. A slight gape and motions about the mouth such as are seen at times in persons labouring under nausea, were observed at the end of one minute.

After five minutes he was asked again how he felt? "The nausea is gone, and now I have considerable working in my abdomen as if * * * I feel as if, if I were in favourable circumstances, I should either do so, or should apply something warm here," pointing to his abdomen.

Patient's whole attention evidently was drawn to that part; he frequently rubbed it as a person would do who was suffering from a slight cholice.

"My whole trouble," he said, "is now in my bowels."

Several questions were here made, all tending to confirm the Committee in the idea that really there was an attempt at a peristaltic action of the bowels.

He was asked how his head felt? "My head feels very clear."

The patient here was observed to rub his abdomen as if suffering there.

At fourteen minutes from commencement of the operation some dryness was observed by patient in his mouth, but no bad taste.

About this time Dr. B. left him for a few moments, and the pain, as the patient had assured the Committee subsequently, was relieved until Dr. B. reapplied his fingers, when the pain again returned.

After this experiment was concluded, one of the Committee asked—

"Had you any idea, when the fingers were placed upon the side of the head, what effect was to be produced?" "I had no idea whatever—I was not looking for any particular result."

The pulse, during this experiment was as follows, as noted by Dr. Dorr:—

Pulse natural at beginning of experiment, 5 p.m. 18m.

" 74 full, rather wiry " 23

" 76 irregular, "as if in a person under influence of a nauseating dose of antimony" " 34

This remark was made by Dr. Flint, in answer to the question, "Do you think, for instance, it is like the pulse of a man suffering from nausea, as from antimony, for example?"

N.B.—During the course of this experiment the patient said, in answer to Dr. Buel, that his chest was the most sensible part of his system to disease.

Experiment 4.—Dr. B. excited Health. The pain and trouble in abdomen were still remaining in some degree. In two minutes he said, in answer to a question about his abdominal sensations, "I should not now notice them;" and in five minutes from the beginning of the experiment said he felt very comfortable, no trouble remaining.

Pulse 72 at beginning of experiment, 5 p.m. 36 minutes, and it continued at this point, perfectly regular and well during the whole experiment, as Dr. Flint assured the Committee on April 3, when the records were reviewed.

[*Note by Dr. Buchanan.*—The influence of the organ of Disease is indicated most usually in the pulse by feebleness and irregularity. The organ called Health, because it produces the most healthy effect on the system, produces a perfectly healthy and steady pulse.]

Experiment 5, commenced 20 minutes before 6 p.m.

Relaxation. Dr. B., before exciting it, wrote, "It affects the general state of the system, and especially the muscular strength."

State of patient. "Feels very well, strength pretty good, mouth a little dry, respiration easy; abdomen, rather feeling of fulness, as from effects of a hearty dinner." Pulse 72. Holds at arm's length a chair with a very heavy overcoat upon it. In two minutes his countenance appeared rather dull and depressed.

The following questions were asked, and, with the answers, were recorded at the time by two members of the Committee:—

Q. Do you perceive any change in your feelings? A. I feel slightly drowsy—a little nausea, a sense of weariness, and my lower extremities feel tired. I don't feel so bright as I did by any means.

His countenance meanwhile became duller, as if from fatigue, but there was no dropping of the eye-lids and disposition to close eyes, as in the first experiment.

At 3½ minutes from commencement of experiment, Dr. B. said, "Try now to lift the chair and cloak."

Patient endeavoured to do so—the arm dropped, wholly unable to sustain them.

Q. Where does your weakness centre? A. I feel very weak, a general weakness.

At 7½ minutes supports chair without cloak.

Q. How are you since you made the effort? A. It required much exertion, and the effect seemed to disturb me.

Countenance continued to appear dull, but his mind was bright.

"Lift the chair again," said Dr. B.

He did so, apparently with as much ease as previously. 12 minutes.

Q. Did you make any greater or less exertion than before? Patient answers indefinitely.

Q. What are your sensations now? A. My head is clear, my mouth is dry; I have slight nausea; altogether I have a great feeling of muscular weakness, a feeling of *actual* weakness, not drowsiness; a sense of weariness more in my legs than my arms.

His eyes droop.

Pulse 72 at beginning of experiment, 5 p.m. 46m.

" 68 soft, full, more compressible, 5 " 51m.

" 76 less full, softer, apparent want of propelling power in the heart, 6 " 5m.

After some conversation as to the importance of conducting the experiments with the greatest care, in order to avoid all possible suspicion of making leading questions, &c., it was voted to adjourn to meet on Monday, April 3, at 4 p.m.

H. I. BOWDITCH.

The proceedings of the meeting of April 3, at which several subjects were operated upon in a very satisfactory manner, are too long for insertion. When Dr. Buchanan was exciting Buffoonry in a young man of intelligence from Salem, the patient replied to a question—

"I think I should like an April fool joke as well as anything; a running of the cars over the neck of a straw man—some such joke as that—something pretty."

Tuesday, April 4.—Present Drs. Ingalls, Homans, H. B. C. Greene, J. Hunt, Crane, Dorr, Bowditch and Dane.

The Committee proceeded to the abode of Mr. S——, where Dr. Buchanan proposed to try some experiments upon Miss ——, as he considered her a very susceptible subject, though she had with reluctance consented to allow the experiments to be made before the Committee. Dr. B. proposed that her eyes should be blinded, in order that the effects may be the more striking. The lady has rather a tall, thin figure, light hair, ruddy complexion, very prominent brow. She is perfectly well. Has attended all Dr. B.'s lectures, and has been operated upon several times by him and others, with reference to the testing of neurology.

Experiment 1 was by Dr. —— placing his hands upon various organs in the head of Dr. B.

Experiment 2.—Dr. Buchanan then proceeded to experiment upon Miss —— . She expressed herself as being perfectly well. Pulse 98, small, regular.

A silver pencil case was placed upon the organ of Mirthfulness of Dr. Flint. In a few moments the patient seemed aroused, and observed pleasantly, "I could talk with this," or something to that effect.

It was applied in the same manner to Dr. Homans's forehead, the handle of a silver spoon intervening, and in one minute patient laughed as if influenced by something imperceptible to those around her. Dr. H. remarked that the experiment had no effect upon him.

Experiment 4.—Calorification (requested by Dr. Ingalls.) Commenced at 9 minutes of 5. Pencil placed on spoon resting on Dr. Homans's chin, Miss — taking hold of pencil; a bandage was placed over her eyes. In a few moments her respiration seemed rather hurried.

Q. How does this affect you? No answer.

Q. Pleasant or unpleasant? A. Better; I have something noble about the feelings I experience now—feel full as well as if I had not my hand placed upon it.

Her lips here became compressed and rather curled.

Q. Are you distinctly conscious of your sensations? A. I have a stillness not felt before.

Pulse here reported as 108, accelerated.

Q. What is the matter? A. I don't know.

Q. Does it feel unpleasant? A. Yes, unpleasant.

It was remarked here by Dr. Flint that her hands were very cold. This, Dr. B. remarked, was a legitimate result in consequence of the irritating effect of the bandages, for that he had frequently found, in exciting her organs, and the organs of others very susceptible, that they were not excited to their appropriate functions, but these last were entirely suppressed, and the usual effects were reversed.

Q. Can you give any account of the state in which you were? A. No; I felt very cold in less than a minute, creeping up from my left hand.

One of the Committee, Dr. Dorr, thought the experiment ought to be tried again with the bandage off, as the coldness was considered mesmeric, the hand of Dr. F. having been some time in contact with this arm. Upon removing the bandage the eyes were closed, the subject partially mesmerised.

Experiment 5. Patient held pencil by right hand—said right side was warm and left shivering. Dr. F. felt no difference in the hands; both were cold.

Experiment 6.—Bandage over eyes, and a thick shawl held up between patient and the head of the individual operated upon. She was led to suppose that the experiment upon Calorification was to be repeated, but Mirthfulness was excited; and the result was that she felt no cold, but was highly pleased, with a disposition to smile.

Experiment 7.—Reason. Patient said she seemed to be in two parts, and her mind was more occupied than her body.

Experiments 8 and 9.—Mirthfulness. Patient laughed heartily, and said she could not help it, because of all sorts of odd ideas jumping in the brain.

10. Combativeness.—To the last question she replied, "I won't answer—haven't felt so cross for six months."

12.—At the end of six minutes from the commencement of experiment, her hand, with the pencil for conductor, was placed on Dr. Flint's organ of Love. In $1\frac{1}{2}$ minute she laughs.

Q. How do you feel now? A. That we are all fools together.

Q. Didn't you tell us to go away? A. No; stay here; I did not mean anything when I told you to go away. I like you all—do not say anything about it.

13. Region of Veneration upon Dr. Flint. In a few moments her countenance became stern and decided, and when asked how she felt, replied, "I feel too good to sit here to be made a fool of." She seemed much excited, but soon became somnolent, and was apparently in a mesmeric sleep.

In six minutes from beginning, she was again bright, and the experiment was renewed.

Q. Tell us the effect. A. Rather pleasant; very pleasant.

Q. How do you feel? A. Not inclined to be cross; I feel very pleasant, and as if others were so likewise.

Q. Tell us your sensations. A. Nothing very particular.

Q. What kind of sensations are they? A. I seem to see very clearly. I would prefer to listen rather than converse.

Q. Does it excite any sensation in your head that is distinct? A. I have rather serious thoughts,—solid, sedate ones, yet nothing gloomy.

Q. Are your thoughts running on any particular subject? A. Rather tranquil ones.

During the remainder of the operation the following questions were asked and answers given, but so rapidly that it was impossible to do any thing more than write them down immediately, without reference to their connection:—

Q. Would you like to walk out? What would you like to engage in? Should you choose any favourite subject, what would it be? Name it. What would be your favourite reading?

A. I feel rather exalted; I should not aspire to any thing more than I ought—I feel as if I had not done wrong—I have peace of mind. I should like something sublime, serious, nothing vain—something to stand by; nothing frivolous. I should like to read the Life of Washington—something noble and true. I feel lighter than I did—not so heavy.

Note by Dr. Buchanan.—The pencil was applied, in the 12th experiment, about the junction of Friendship and Love; in the 13th, over the whole region of Veneration and Philanthropy. The first effect of that experiment was very singular: her organ of Self-Esteem was powerfully excited in consequence of my placing my hand in such a manner as to bring her more nearly in connection with that organ, through my hand and pencil, than with that of Veneration; as soon as this communication was removed, the moral influence became apparant, and the influence of Self-Esteem ceased.]

April 7.—The Committee met at half-past three, p.m.

Present Mr. D., a man about thirty, pale face, rather tall, thin frame; thick, bushy, rather dark hair: feels perfectly well; has never studied Dr. Buchanan's diagram, and knows nothing of the subject. Has been mesmerised once, April 6th, by Dr. Gilbert, and has had Somnolence, Combativeness, Consciousness, excited by Mr. Channing this forenoon.

Experiment 1.—Dr. B., in putting his fingers upon the organs of Somnolence, remarked that he had never seen the patient before, and did not know whether he was susceptible.

Many questions were put, and upon the patient declaring his sensations very disagreeable, the operator brushed off his forehead for half a minute, which removed the unpleasant feeling.

Experiment 2.—Similar.

Experiment 3.—Shade excited. Dr. B. remarked a scar with depression of the skull in part nearly corresponding to Somnolence; to this he attributed the unpleasant feeling when that organ was excited.

Patient felt a good deal of pain darting through his temples from the doctor's fingers—grew confused—saw dark things best—to look at white gave pain.

Experiment 4.—The Doctor transferred his fingers to Light. Things appeared to patient more natural—white gave less pain—saw paper was ruled—eyes became bright, saw every thing distinctly—light reflected from wall of Tremont Theatre opposite was quite glaring and unpleasant, but patient said not to him, though before very painful.

Experiment 5.—Intoxication. After several questions, Dr. B. asked patient to try to walk; he rose with difficulty, and moved with a trembling, staggering gait, taking hold of every thing that came in his way in order to support himself. Laughs, and says, "Well, that is curious, whoever does it; I never was drunk before, that is certain. I thought I could walk before I got up." Mind did not appear affected; extremities cold and perspiring; pulse 76.

At the end of about an hour patient said he felt like one who had been drinking.

Experiment 6.—Murder. Replied to questions; thought midshipman Spencer was executed rather hastily; should not have been afraid of him.

Experiment 7.—Suicide.

In the attempt to excite this organ, several points were tried from want of certainty as to the exact location, and consequently nearly all the neighbouring organs were excited. Thus at first the finger, being placed too far forward, excited a portion of the organ of Baseness, which is directed to licentious intrigue. Then, the hand being applied to a larger space, Destructiveness and Sullenness, with the upper portion of Turbulence, were excited, under which he disliked society and ordinary pursuits, preferring hunting. The suicidal tendency being thus excited, in common with its immediate neighbours, was not distinctly displayed as if it had been excited alone.

April 8.—Committee met at Tremont House, Spectators present, Drs. Homans and Wheeler, Messrs. Fowle, Grattan, Horace Mann, Alexander H. Everett, J. R. Lowell, W. W. Story.

Experiment 1 on Dr. Lane.—Calorification (4 o'clock 33 minutes.) Pulse 76. soft, full. In ten minutes Dr. B. puts his finger on Somnolency; pulse 90. Eyelids waver; gapes, and is inclined to go to sleep. Dr. B. moves his fingers to Refrigeration.

Q. Which is the most agreeable, the impression produced here or that on the chin?

A. That produced on the chin. I notice no great change, unless it be a firmer, more resolved state of mind—no difference but in strength and coolness of mind. Sensations very comfortable.

Dr. B. moves his fingers to Calorification. Patient felt the same trouble in respiration as when that organ was excited before; would prefer to breathe a clear atmosphere.

Experiment 2.—Intoxication. Upon the second application of fingers to this organ, patient feels slight nausea, rises and walks unsteadily, reels backwards and forward.

Q. Which seems to move, yourself or the room? A. The room is still, and I am conscious that I am moving.

Dr. B. again puts his fingers on Intoxication—patient stands up, says he feels quite well—is steady, has not the same feelings as before, only some dizziness about the head.

Dr. B. reapplies his fingers to the same organ, touching also occasionally the organ of Somnolency with the fore finger. Dr. Lane rises again—feels drowsy and somewhat sick.

Experiment 3.—Felony. Patient answered, that he had no conception of what organs were touched—felt a slight chilliness.

Q. What effect on your mental condition? A. I have the same determined feeling as in a former operation—a sort of fighting disposition—should like a boxing match.

Q. by Dr. Bowditch. Are you naturally of a pugnacious disposition? A. You know the contrary.

Q. What scene would gratify you most? A. A good fight. I should prefer an individual fight rather than a general battle.

Q. Would you enjoy it as a spectator or participator?

A. Could not tell. Should enjoy the "tustle" of a battle—would prefer weapons to fists—should not like pistols or long weapons, but prefer small short daggers, so as to bring the combatants close together. I should not care whether I were a spectator or participator. Should enjoy a gladiatorial fight.

Q. As an actor? I do not know; should not be satisfied unless there was blood spilt.

Q. What organ do you suppose Dr. B. is touching? A. I should say Combativeness.

Q. How would the famous New York pugilistic fight suit you? A. I should not like it.

Q. Do you feel any compunctions of conscience? A. I do not.

The fingers were now removed. Patient still felt braced, and said he should prefer the "lex talionis" to turning the other cheek.

Experiment 4.—Philanthropy, (5 o'clock 40 minutes; pulse feebler, and a little fuller.)

Patient did not feel quite so much inclined to fight; thought he should prefer the law which requires the turning of the other cheek; a kind of sadness about every thing; felt as if he had the "blues"—would turn away from such scenes as had just been described, and prefer to be alone in a solitary walk, with serious thoughts wholly disconnected from the money getting business of life; would practise his profession amongst the poor; preferred such contemplations as had a bearing on the relations between the soul and body.

Dr. B. remarks that the posterior part of the organ of Philanthropy burdens upon Mortality and Immortality, of which the former is a depressing organ, calculated to accelerate the approach of death. By moving the fingers directly forward from Philanthropy and Mortality, the Dr. placed them upon Philanthropy and Hope,—whereupon the patient lost his desire for a solitary life, wished to be on good terms with every body, and would practise his profession for the sake of doing good.

Q. How would you like fighting? A. (Shakes his head.)

Experiment 5.—5 o'clock 58m. Acquisitiveness.

Q. Which do you enjoy most? A. The last. I do not feel so energetic as before.

The operator moved his fingers further forward.

Q. What course of life would please you? A. I do not notice any result.

Q. Do you feel the same as before? A. No: the business of a butcher passed through my mind—should like it because a good slice of beef looks so nice.

Q. What would be the leading objects of your life? A. I like the butchers' stall—there is a feeling of relish about it.

Q. Suppose you had a fortune, and were going to spend it? A. I would spend most in eating. Think I should not practise for the poor. would keep all my money; would not give away any even to the cook; if it went for anything, it should be for eating.

Dr. B. remarked that these two feelings were inconsistent. A. I should want to live well, but should not want to pay for it—should like to make money and keep it, and eat, all by fair means.

Q. Would you like to have your friends around? A. No; I should wish to eat my dinner alone.

Q. by Dr. Ingalls. Would you like poor meat or the best? A. The best, but this would cost more. I was going to get them without cost.

Q. Would you give a poor beggar the remnants? A. No; I should wish to keep the scraps for the next day.

Q. Do you enjoy this state? A. For the time all comfort seems to centre there.

Experiment 6.—Liberality. Patient was asked if he was fond of music. A. I enjoy it, but have no relish for it now.

Q. What would you enjoy? A. I wish to think a moment. I should cast the beef by; give it all up. If I went to the theatre, it would be to see a handsome first tier.

Q. How would you spend your money? A. I cannot imagine I have money. I feel as if everything were for the best—should not worry myself about any pursuit. In regard to books, should like a handsome library.

The Dr. moves his fingers to Acquisitiveness.

Patient says—I don't relish this feeling; it is too miserly—too much a feeling of dollars and cents. I think if this feeling were to continue, I should pocket the half dollar on the table. If a number of gentlemen were to call on me this evening, I should hope they had not come to supper, I feel as if I were a pauper.

Dr. B. reapplies his fingers to Liberality. Dr. L. laughs heartily. "Now suppose I make you a present of this watch?" "It is mine already." "I was just thinking whether that money on the table did or did not belong to me."

Fingers returned to Acquisitiveness. Dr. L. catches up various coins thrown upon the table. Said he felt as if he wanted all he could get.

Fingers removed to Benevolence. Dr. L. exclaims, "Whose cash is that? it is not mine; and hesitates about recognizing his own watch; examines the initials on the key. But when the fingers are again placed on Acquisitiveness, says he knows it is his watch.

NOTE BY DR BOWDITCH.

SIR,—Although some of Dr. Buchanan's experiments before the medical committee were very interesting, and suggested to my mind topics worthy of more thorough investigation, I opposed their publication as a wholly premature proceeding, inasmuch as, in my opinion, the facts therein contained do not prove either the truth or the falsity of what Dr. Buchanan calls the science of neurology.

As I learn that you have been requested to publish some of the records of the Committee, I beg of you to publish, at the same time, this note.

H. I. BOWDITCH.

THE ANIMAL SYSTEM, in its most complicated and perfect example—Man, consists, like the Solar one, of a series of subordinate systems, or actions, all concurring to one great end (life), so intimately connected, that the existence of one presumes that of the rest, and forming so perfect a circle, that, in the description of it, it is indifferent in what part of the circumference we commence, as every part necessarily leads us to the same end, the point we began at.—*Dr. John Morrison.*

THE MEDICAL FACULTY AT YORK.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PHRENO-MAGNET.

SIR,—I have great pleasure in being able to state, from communications I have had with the medical gentlemen alluded to in my letter, inserted in your Magazine for the present month, that I was mistaken in supposing they wished to prevent non-professional persons pursuing investigations in Mesmerism, their only object being to deter the ignorant and foolish from performing experiments for the gratification of idle curiosity, or the amusement of a leisure hour.

By inserting this explanation, you will much oblige

Yours, respectfully,

G. B. DALBY.

York, May 9th, 1843.

CURIOUS EXPERIMENT.—Previous to the departure of Mr. Hall's patients for Sheffield, one of them, named Furness, was mesmerised by another, during the forenoon; and when in the mesmeric sleep he was told that when the coach stopped at the inn at Conisbro' in the afternoon he was to procure a glass of water and drink it off, and immediately afterwards to sing part of a certain song which was named. On being demesmerised the young man had not, as is generally the case, the least knowledge of what had taken place during his sleep. The matter was kept from him by those who were in the secret, and who anxiously awaited the result of the experiment. Mr. Hall, and his friends, among whom was the patient, left this town in the afternoon; and on their arrival at Conisbro', where the coach was stopped, Furness (who is a teetotalter) said he should like to have a glass of ginger beer, but as they had none some water would do. He accordingly called for a glass of water, drank it off, and immediately sang the verses which had been suggested to him three hours previously, when in the mesmeric sleep at Doncaster. Astonishing as this may appear, we understand that similar results have been frequently produced on other patients, though it is not the case with all.—*Doncaster Gazette*.—[This is true; but we by no means recommended a frequent repetition of such experiments. In curative cases such an influence may sometimes be invaluable; but where there is a possibility of circumstances occurring to thwart the injunction, the sufferings of the patient might be intolerable. We shall in a future number endeavour to point out some of the practical uses of this power, illustrated by cases of an interesting character.—ED.]

Mr. Catlow, of Manchester, having visited Sheffield, for the purpose of opposing phreno-magnetism and illustrating the theory of suggestive dreaming, gave three evenings' experiments in the early part of the month to very small audiences, who were certainly interested, though by no means convinced of the truth or fallacy of either theory by his arguments. As to his experiments, they told precisely as much for one as the other theory—or, so we thought.

A correspondent at Leicester informs us of a recent case there, in which without the least pain, a tooth was extracted from a patient in the mesmeric sleep.