Barbers and surgeons.

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ath; but it becomes much greater when ascending inlined surfaces, such as climbing the sides of hills and nountains. Under these circumstances the speed is iminished, and the muscular power is expended in aising the body upwards. During this period, the umber of respirations, as well as the number of pulations of the heart in a second, augment, and a eeling of languor and fatigue communicates to the edestrian the conviction that he has done as much ork as his system will sustain without danger of overtigue, and too great a prostration of strength—a conition from which it often takes a long time to reruit. On the other hand, a due exercise of muscular ction in walking is necessary, as we have already seen, o the healthy and vigorous play of the several organs f the human body.

BARBERS AND SURGEONS.

We are but too apt to overlook the slow and silent peration of the great principles upon which what is ow known as the science of political economy are ounded, although they are sufficiently curious and bvious, even in matters which might be deemed too igh or too low to be thought within their influence. hey prevail unconsciously in the progress of society rom a low to a high state of civilization; and the ainted pole and decayed teeth which formerly desigated and ornamented the barber's shop, offer an exmplification of the results of a division and union of mployments, interesting enough to justify a short otice of their history.

It is a remarkable fact that the curative art, an art o highly beneficial and even necessary to the well-eing of mankind, should for a very lengthened period ave existed entirely or chiefly in a merely auxiliary tate. Without going into any historical proofs, we nay state that in the earliest times it was auxiliary to he priesthood. In the middle ages it was practised y females of the highest classes, and, perhaps as a emnant of these ages in our own country, to a comaratively recent time, few villages were without their Lady Bountiful, who by their simples and specifics lleviated or aggravated, as it might happen, the ailnents of the confiding rustics.

The union of the barber with the surgeon is not ery distinctly traced. The Egyptian priests, it would ppear, shaved, and in the legislation of Moses (*Leviicus*, chap. xiv.) concerning leprosy, the treatment of which disease was intrusted to the priests, he directs, n the recovery of a leper, that the head, eyebrows, and eard should be shaved. This could hardly be done y the patient himself. Civilization, however, gradually rendered the medical an independent, instead of n auxiliary art. Amongst the Greeks and Romans here were eminent medical practitioners; but in the East, where science dawned, but never attained its zenith, the medical profession was, and yet is, commonly nited with that of the bath-keeper and the barber. In he middle ages of Europe it again merged into the priesthood, and monks and friars, with a few Jews, the disciples of the Arabians, were the general possessors f the healing art. But here superstition produced the ame effect, for a time, that civilization would have nore beneficially effected.

In 1163 the Council of Tours prohibited the clergy rom performing any operations in which there was oss of blood. Surgery was also banished from the niversities, under the pretext that the church held in bhorrence all kinds of bloodshed. This separation as the more readily effected in consequence of the arbers and bath-keepers having assumed the practice f surgery.

In France the Company of Barbers was formed in 1096, when William, then Archbishop of Rouen, prohibited the wearing of the beard. The bath-keepers, who pretended to much medical knowledge, by preparing medicated baths suited to different diseases and constitutions, and also by previously preparing the body by laxatives and venesection, shared with the barbers for a long period the practice of the healing art. Meanwhile the mists of the middle ages were gradually dispersing, and surgery, illumined by the science of anatomy, began its progress towards a new and brilliant position.

The profession of the barber, in the course of time, combined the art of the chirurgeon with the craft of the perruquier. In France the barbiers-chirurgiens were separated from the barbiers-perruquiers in the time of Louis XIV., and made a distinct corporation. The barbers of London were first incorporated by King Edward IV., 1461, and at that time were the only persons who exercised the art of surgery. But this consolidation of the two crafts could not be permanent. The gradual increase of wealth and luxury created a demand for superior skill in every department of medical and surgical science, and the consequence was, that persons of superior attainments began to apply themselves more to actual observation, and the acquisition of practical knowledge by a more careful study of the human body, and surgery was more enriched by the single discoveries of close observers than by all the preceding centuries of theory. These persons formed themselves into a voluntary association which they called the Company of Surgeons of London. The efforts of this association eventually effected the separation of the two crafts. By an Act passed in the 32nd of Henry VIII. these two companies were united and made one body corporate by the name of the Barbers and Surgeons of London, but it is remarkable that this nominal incorporation was their virtual separation, for the barbers were not to practise surgery further than the drawing of teeth, and the surgeons were strictly prohibited from exercising the feat or craft of shaving. This disjunct alliance continued till the year 1745, when, by an Act passed in the 18th of Geo. II., the barbers and surgeons were disunited and made two distinct corporations. Prior to this, however, many of the barbers, notwithstanding the legal prohibition, continued the practice of phlebotomy and the curing of wounds. The lute or guitar, as in former times, formed part of the furniture of the shop, which down to the reign of Queen Anne was frequented by a class of persons somewhat above the common level of the people. The musical instruments were for the entertainment of the customers, and answered the purpose of the newspaper, which in aftertimes became the great attraction of a barber's shop. The barbers for a long period were distinguished by a professional idiosyncrasy, which has been noticed by Steele in one of the papers of the 'Tatler.' In speaking of Salter, commonly called Don Saltero, a noted and eccentric barber, fiddler, and collector of curiosities, he asks, "Whence it should proceed that, of all the lower order, barbers should go further in hitting the ridiculous than any other set of men? Watermen brawl, coblers sing; but why must a barber be for ever a politician, a musician, an anatomist, a poet, and a physician?" But these professional peculiarities gradually disappeared, and the barbers lost caste. In proportion as the profession of the surgeon rose into eminence and renown, that of the barber sunk into insignificance and obscurity. Anterior to this degradation, the two crafts of the barber and the peruke-maker were conjoined, and during the reign of Ann, and subsequently, when periwigs were in vogue, that of the latter was in a flourishing state; but when, by the actual and complete separation of the barbers from the surgeons, the former declined in

importance and respectability, many of the wigmakers relinquished the feat of shaving, and established themselves as perruquiers, hairdressers, and perfumers.

Mr. Creech, in his statistical account of Edinburgh, records a similar revolution in the Society of Barbers, which affords an instance of the rapid progress of refinement, or perhaps the increase of luxury, in the metropolis of Scotland. "In 1763 there was no such profession known as a perfumer; barbers and wigmakers were numerous, and were in the order of decent burgesses: hairdressers were few, and hardly permitted to dress hair on Sundays, and many of them voluntarily declined it. In 1783 perfumers had splendid shops in every principal street. Some of them advertised the keeping of bears, to kill occasionally for greasing ladies' and gentlemen's hair, as superior to any other animal fat. Hairdressers were more than tripled in number, and their busiest day was on Sunday. There was a professor who advertised a hairdressing academy, and gave lectures on that noble and useful art. What is here stated of Edinburgh is, with few exceptions, applicable to London. In 1760 there were in the English metropolis a great number of petty barbers' shops, which in defiance of the laws then existing were open on Sundays, "their busiest day," and to which many persons resorted, not only to be shaved, but to be bled, for which they paid threepence, and frequently had their arms lamed. It was also common at this period for barbers to send their young apprentices into the Fleet, Marshalsea, Bridewell, and other prisons during divine service, to shave the poor prisoners gratis, that they might improve their hands before they practised on their masters' customers. Barbers' men, commonly called flying barbers, were likewise to be seen, even down to a much later period, running about on the Sunday mornings with wig-boxes, containing the newly curled and powdered wigs of those who, possessing only one of these ornamental coverings of the head, could not send them to be dressed until late on Saturday night.

Bleeding, notwithstanding the legal prohibition, continued to be practised by many of the petty barbers till 1780. The shops of these professors presented a mean, dirty, and unsightly appearance; besides the parti-coloured pole* projecting from the door, there was in the lower part of the window a row of porringers, either of pewter or blue and white delf, filled with coagulated blood; while some of the upper panes were adorned with a fanciful arrangement of rotten teeth; and those artists who united to their vocation the art of dressing and renovating wigs, added the sign of an old grizzly peruke stuck on a wooden, featureless block.

Soon after this period, phlebotomy and shaving were completely disunited, and blood-letting, cupping, and the extracting of teeth became a distinct occupation. The bone-setters, another class of practitioners, who occupied themselves solely with the art of replacing dislocated or fractured bones, might now be considered as extinct. Here science had united the profession to that of the surgeon, who had studied anatomy. Wigs, which, from their varieties and general adoption, had for a long time been a source of emolument to the perruquiers, and given employment to a great many petty barbers and their apprentices in weaving of hair, were now going rapidly out of fashion; and their complete extermination, excepting a few instances, and those worn as forensic costume, was effected by the French revolution, which brought into vogue cro and Brutuses. Hair-powder was also going out use, being relinquished by some to avoid the tax of guinea per annum, levied on those who wore it; others, to escape from the ridicule and odium of bein pointed at and called *guinea-pigs* and *aristocrats*; an by a third party from political motives.

These changes in the fashions occasioned great di tress among the barbers, especially those of the low class. In 1792 the shops of those whose only emplo ment was shaving and cutting hair were of the meane description; the pole, which, being no longer ind cative of their calling, had been for some time throw aside, was succeeded by a lantern, about a foot and half square, made of oiled paper, on which was i scribed, in black or blue letters, "Easy shaving "Shave for a penny," or "The noted shaving-shop These lanterns, which were suspended by a strin fastened to a wooden or iron rod projecting over t door or window, swung and twirled in the wind, a at night, being illumined by a small candle, emitted dull, hazy light, distinguishable enough amid the g neral gloom, which could scarcely be said to be ev partially dissipated by the glimmering of the pari lamps.

[To be continued.]

The Kingfisher.—In No. 724 an account was given (from t 'Penny Cyclopædia') of the nest of this bird, and of the d ferent opinions held concerning it. A correspondent, the garde of a gentleman near Buntingford, in Hertfordshire, evidently acute and careful observer, has since sent us the result of investigation, which we give in nearly his own words:—"A p of kingfishers bred close to my garden last season, and not bei so much acquainted with them as I wished to be, I paid partic lar attention to their habits. Their nest was in a perpendicu bank, ten feet high, of a somewhat sandy soil. They made hole themselves, which inclined upwards for about three f and at the end was a circular hole eight inches in diame where they deposited their eggs. I often visited the place, a used to look into the hole, which was not sufficiently large admit my hand, and was in a very filthy state. Being anxi to get the young, I did not disturb them until I thought t were ready to fly. I then took a garden trowel, and made hole large enough to admit my hand, taking notice of passage as I went on. The bottom was covered with fish-bo to the depth of one inch, quite dry. When I reached the e to my great disappointment, the young birds had flown. Be vexed at losing the birds, and anxious to see them again, I of cast my eyes towards the spot. About ten days afterward was gratified to see the old birds begin a fresh hole, whic thought I would not be so tardy in visiting. They made hole very quickly, using their bills as a picker, and scratch like a rat. I think Montagu is wrong as regards their build in rats' holes, as there were some close by, but they seemed prefer a hole made by themselves (I say building, but they h not any nest). In a fortnight after the hole was complete went and opened it so as to get my hand in, when I fou several fish, some whole and others partly eaten. The fish w of the sort called stoneroach, and much too large for the ki fisher to swallow. It has been stated that the birds have ne been seen carrying any food in their bills to their young, a that the birds swallow their prey and eject it again. Thi believe to be a mistake, as I have frequently seen the birds w their food in their bills, and finding those fish in the hole i further confirmation of the fact. In this hole I found six eg of the same size, shape, and colour as described (in No. 724, " perfectly white and transparent, of a short oval form, weigh about a dram"). As soon as the old birds found their e taken, they immediately began a third hole, four feet from last. In a few days I visited them again, made the hole la so as to get at them, and here I caught the old bird sitting u one egg, making seven altogether, as there is little doubt t that this one was part of the number she intended to lay in second hole. The bird was in a filthy state, as was likewise hole. Whole fish, in a putrid state, were likewise found he I do not think any pains were taken in making a nest of bones, as they were scattered all about the hole alike."

* The barber's pole had its origin in the staff which was usually put into the hand of the patient while under the operation of bleeding; and which, when not in use, had the fillet that bound the arm entwined round it. The painted pole, though of much larger dimensions, represents such staff with its fillet wound spirally round it.

are several which are well worthy of mention. Ince Hall, near Wigan, is very large and lofty, the frame-work highly curious, and the general effect magnificent. Bramall Hall, two miles from Stockport, is also very large. The great hall is thirty-six feet square, with a spiral staircase of solid blocks of oak. Formerly a long and lofty gallery extended the whole length of the front, surmounting the roofs, and terminating at each end in a deep gable. A similar gallery still remains at Moreton Hall, near Congleton. The Oaks, in the village of West Bromwich, near Birmingham, is distinguished by the number and variety of its gables, by its central tower and high ornamented chimneys. Meer Hall, three miles from Droitwich, has two large end-gables, with five smaller gables between them. The frame-work of the upper stories is exceedingly curious. There are many others of large size and beautiful workmanship, and all of them are as rich in carving and ornament within, as they are picturesque on the exterior, of which alone we have treated in this short sketch.

BARBERS AND SURGEONS.

[Continued from page 88.]

The profession of the barber had now lost nearly all its exchangeable value; it no longer included the curing of wounds, the letting of blood, or the drawing of teeth, but was reduced to its primary elements of shaving and hair-cutting; and as most of those in the middle rank of society had become their own operators in the art of shaving, the employment of the mere barber was mostly afforded by the working classes, which, indeed, is the case at the present time; and it is remarkable that the shops of the *penny* and *halfpenny* shavers are again distinguished by the elevation of the parti-coloured pole, although it is no longer significant of the practice in which its prototype was used.

But an improvement in the taste, a refinement in the habits and manners of society in general, created a desire and demand for beauty and embellishment in all the various useful and fanciful arts, and called into existence, among others, a class of superior artists in the manufacture of ornamental hair. These persons, combining with their own art that of the hair-dresser and perfumer, opened splendid shops, in the windows of which were exhibited—not the dull, dirty-looking, "noseless blocks," surmounted with powdered wigs, but waxen busts of more than natural beauty, elegantly though partially draped, and adorned with hair redolent of essences and curls, which, whatever their colour, seemed to heighten the complexion into the most brilliant hues. These, together with ornamented combs, brushes, and bottles of essences, perfumes, cosmetics, and other articles of the toilet, presented a showy and attractive appearance, and formed a striking contrast between "The easy shaving-shop" and "The emporium of elegance and fashion."

While these mutations were taking place among the barbers, the profession of the surgeon, freed from its incumbrance, was rising into high repute. The superstition of the early ages, and the popular prejudice of later times, which prevailed against anatomical manipulations of the dead body, had been gradually overcome. Schools of anatomy were established in France, to which the surgeons of this and other countries resorted for the purpose of prosecuting their studies in dissection and improving their knowledge of the animal economy.

In England great improvements were made on the science by John Hunter, who was master of the anatomy of the human body, and ambitious of making his pupils as skilful as himself. From his time surgery made rapid advances, and the sphere of its utility was greatly extended, and the demand for its services increased, by the improvements and diversity of its instruments, there being now upwards of a hundred varieties, more than half of which were unknown a century ago. To the variety and mechanical ingenuity and perfection of these implements joined to professional dexterity, much of the alleviation of human suffering is to be attributed. Thus the arts are always tinctured by the spirit of the age, and artists will be skilful in proportion as the age is intelligent and refined. A high state of civilization invariably creates a demand for excellence in the various productions both of nature and of art, and consequently for the exercise of the utmost skill and ingenuity on the part of every description of artists. Half a century ago dentists—if we except the extracting barbers—were scarcely known; but the desire for personal embellishment and comfort on the part of the wealthy, and the equally strong desire of obtaining wealth, or, at least, of bettering their condition, on the part of some of the professors of surgery, brought into existence a class of practitioners calling themselves surgeon-dentists; and the same desire of obtaining personal ease and gratification, by an exchange of money for artistical skill, caused many medical professors to devote themselves almost entirely to the study of some particular branch of medicine or surgery, and hence arose oculists, aurists, chiropedists, &c. These subdivisions have been the occasion of great improvements in surgery, by allowing the attention, the judgment, and the manual dexterity of individuals to be directed and applied to some particular department of the science. Hence so great has been the improvement in the art of the dentist, and so greatly increased the demand for its productions, that its practitioners are now divided into two classes—*surgeon-dentists* and *mechanical-dentists*.

Another remarkable contrast—the result of the separation of the surgeons from the barbers—appears in the splendid museum which the talents of John Hunter, and the researches, exertions, and liberal expenditure of the President and Council, have collected within the walls of the present College of Surgeons, when compared with the museum in the Hall of the Barber-surgeons, the account of which, as recorded by Maitland, can scarcely be read without a smile.

The art or feat of barbery, as now practised, consisting of the simple operation of shaving, is not susceptible of that improvement which results from the division of labour; but formerly it included the cutting and dressing or trimming the beard (as well as the hair), and the various modes in which it was worn required considerable skill and different operations on the part of the practitioner to suit the taste of the times. We learn from Shakspere, in his 'Midsummer Night's Dream,' that in his time some wore strings in their beards; and in the humorous description given by John Taylor, the water-poet, of the beards in his time, we learn the variety and fancy of their forms, some of which are really curious. In his enumeration of what he terms the "strange and variable cut of men's beards," in which

> "some take as vain a pride
> As almost in all other things beside,"

he informs us—

> "Some seem as they were *starched stiff* and fine,
> Like to the bristles of some angry swine;
> And some to set their love's desire on edge,
> Are cut and prun'd like to a quick-set hedge;
> Some like a spade, some like a fork, some square,
> Some round, some mow'd like stubble, some stark bare;
> Some sharp, stiletto-fashion, dagger-like,
> That may, with whispering, a man's eyes outpike;

Some with a hammer cut, or Roman T,
Their beards extravagant reform'd must be;
Some with the quadrate, some triangle fashion;
Some circular, some oval in translation;
Some perpendicular in longitude,
Some like a thicket for their crassitude:
That heights, depths, breadths, triform, square, oval, round,
And rules geometrical in beards are found."

Starching the beard and curling the whiskers appear to have been very modish about two centuries ago. In the 'Life of Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas,' entitled 'Pylades and Corinna,' printed in 1731, we have the following account of Mr. Richard Shute, her grandfather, a Turkey merchant: "That he was very nice in the mode of that age, his valet being *some hours* every morning in starching his beard and curling his whiskers; during which time, a gentleman, whom he maintained as a companion, always read to him upon some useful subject." This custom is also alluded to in the following lines of Hudibras, whose mistress, in speaking of his beard, says—

"Though yours be sorely lugg'd and torn,
It does your visage more adorn
Than if 'twere prun'd, and *starch'd, and lander'd*,
And cut square by the Russian standard."

The "Russian standard" is an allusion to the long and broad beards worn by the Russian nobility and gentry, till the time of the Czar Peter the Great, who compelled them to part with these ornaments, not only by laying a heavy tax upon them, but by the harsher methods of ordering them to be plucked out by the roots or shaved with a blunt razor. (See the 'Northern Worthies,' 1728.)

From this slight sketch it will, we think, be obvious that no art admitting indefinite improvements, and capable of exercising the highest attributes of the mind, can be kept in subservience to another profession, nor in union with one, like that of the barber, that is merely mechanical. Mankind, as increasing intelligence enables them to judge, prefer, at whatever price, the highest excellence in any profession that can be attained, knowing that in fact such excellence is in reality the cheapest. The numerous subdivisions we have noticed are a proof of the efforts and labour necessary in each department to ensure the highest degree of knowledge and skill; and even the barber, as a class, has elevated himself into the adorner, instead of the disfigurer, of the human form.

Nature the Architect of Society.—Human society is not like a piece of mechanism which may be safely taken to pieces, and put together by the hands of an ordinary artist. It is the work of nature, and not of man; and has received, from the hands of its Author, an organization that cannot be destroyed without danger to its existence, and certain properties and powers that cannot be altered or suspended by those who may have been intrusted with its management. By studying these properties, and directing those powers, it may be modified and altered to a very considerable extent. But they must be allowed to develop themselves by their internal energy, and to familiarise themselves with their new channel of exertion. A child cannot be stretched out by engines to the stature of a man, nor a man compelled, in a morning, to excel in all the exercises of an athlete. Those into whose hands the destinies of a great nation are committed, should bestow on its reformation at least as much patient observance and as much tender precaution as are displayed by a skilful gardener in his treatment of a sickly plant. He props up those branches that are weak or overloaded, and gradually prunes and reduces those that are too luxuriant; he cuts away what is absolutely rotten and distempered; he stirs the earth about the root, and sprinkles it with water, and waits for the coming spring: he trains the young branches to the right hand or to the left; and leads it, by a gradual and spontaneous progress, to expand or exalt itself, season after season, in the direction which he had previously determined; and thus, in the course of a few summers, he brings it, without injury or compulsion, into that form and proportion which could not with safety have been imposed upon it in shorter time. The reformers of France applied no such gentle solicitations, and could not wait for the effects of any such preparatory measures or voluntary developments. They forcibly broke over its lofty boughs, and endeavoured to straighten its crooked joints by violence: they tortured it into symmetry in vain, and shed its life-blood on the earth, in the middle of its scattered branches.—*Lord Jeffrey.*

Dunlop Cheese.—Dunlop cheese is made in the counties of Ayr, Renfrew, Lanark, and Galloway, of various sizes, from twenty to sixty pounds. After the milk is brought to a certain degree of heat (about a hundred degrees of the thermometer upon an average, though in summer ninety will be sufficient, and, on the contrary, during the winter, a higher degree will be requisite), it is mixed with the cream which had been skimmed, and kept cool. The milk is then poured into a large vessel, where the rennet is added to it, and the whole is closely covered up for ten or twelve minutes. If the rennet is good it will then have effected a coagulation of the milk, which is gently stirred; the whey then begins immediately to separate, and is taken off as it gathers, until the curd becomes tolerably solid. It is now put into a strainer, the cover of which is pressed down with any convenient weight. After it has thus stood for some time, and is tolerably dry, it is returned into the first vessel or dish, where it is cut into very small pieces by means of a cheese-knife that is furnished with three or four blades, fixed on prongs from the handle, that cut in a horizontal direction. It is thus turned up and cut, every ten or fifteen minutes, and also pressed with the hand, until all the whey is extracted. The curd is now once more cut as small as possible, and salted, care being taken to mix it minutely with the mass. Lastly, it is put into a cheesi or cheesart, a stout dish with iron hoops, which has a cover that goes exactly into it; a cloth being placed between the curd and the vessel. It this state, it is submitted to the action of the cheese-press, whence it is occasionally taken and wrapped in dry cloths, until it is supposed to have completely parted with the whey. It is then laid aside for one or two days, when it is again examined; and, if there is any appearance of whey remaining the pressure and application of cloths are repeated. As soon a it is ascertained that the whey is extracted, the cheese is gene rally kept for a few days in the farmer's kitchen, in order to dr it, before it is placed in the store, where a smaller degree of hea is admitted. While there, it is turned three or four times a day until it begins to harden on the outside; when it is removed t the store, and turned twice a week afterwards. When th cheese is cured, various modes are adopted in preparing it fo sale, which are rather injurious than beneficial; nothing furthe being requisite, besides turning it, than to rub it occasionall with a coarse cloth, especially after harvest, because at that tim it has a tendency to breed mites. In some dairies, the cream i carefully separated from the milk; while in others, the milk i not all allowed to cool, but thickened as taken from the cow; i being thought that "if the milk is allowed to stand until th cream separates from it, the cream can never again be com pletely blended with it, or retained in the curd when set, an the cheese will seem to be considerably poorer." We hav given this long account; for the Ayrshire dairy-people thin that there is a great deal of mystery attending all these manip lations; but the only mystery consists in the cheese bein honestly made of the milk, cream, and all; in particular, atten tion being paid to the temperature of the milk when the rennet i added, and that most accurately ascertained by the dairymaid thermometer, the top of the finger; and, finally, in the chees being dried in a cool plac, without any painting, or sweating or rubbing with grease or oil.—*Agricultural Gazette.*

Mental Blindness.—Talk to a blind man—he knows he want the sense of sight, and willingly makes the proper allowance But there are certain internal senses which a man may want, an yet be wholly ignorant that he wants them. It is most unpleasa to converse with such persons on subjects of taste, philosophy, o religion. Of course there if no *reasoning* with them, for the do not possess the facts on which the reasoning must be grounde Nothing is possible but a naked dissent, which implies a sort o unsocial contempt; or, what a man of kind disposition is ver likely to fall into, a heartless tacit acquiescence, which borde too nearly on duplicity.—*Coleridge.*