

**Memoir of Thomas Turner, F.R.C.S., F.L.S., member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England etc. / by a relative ; with an introduction by The Rev. David Bell, M.D.**

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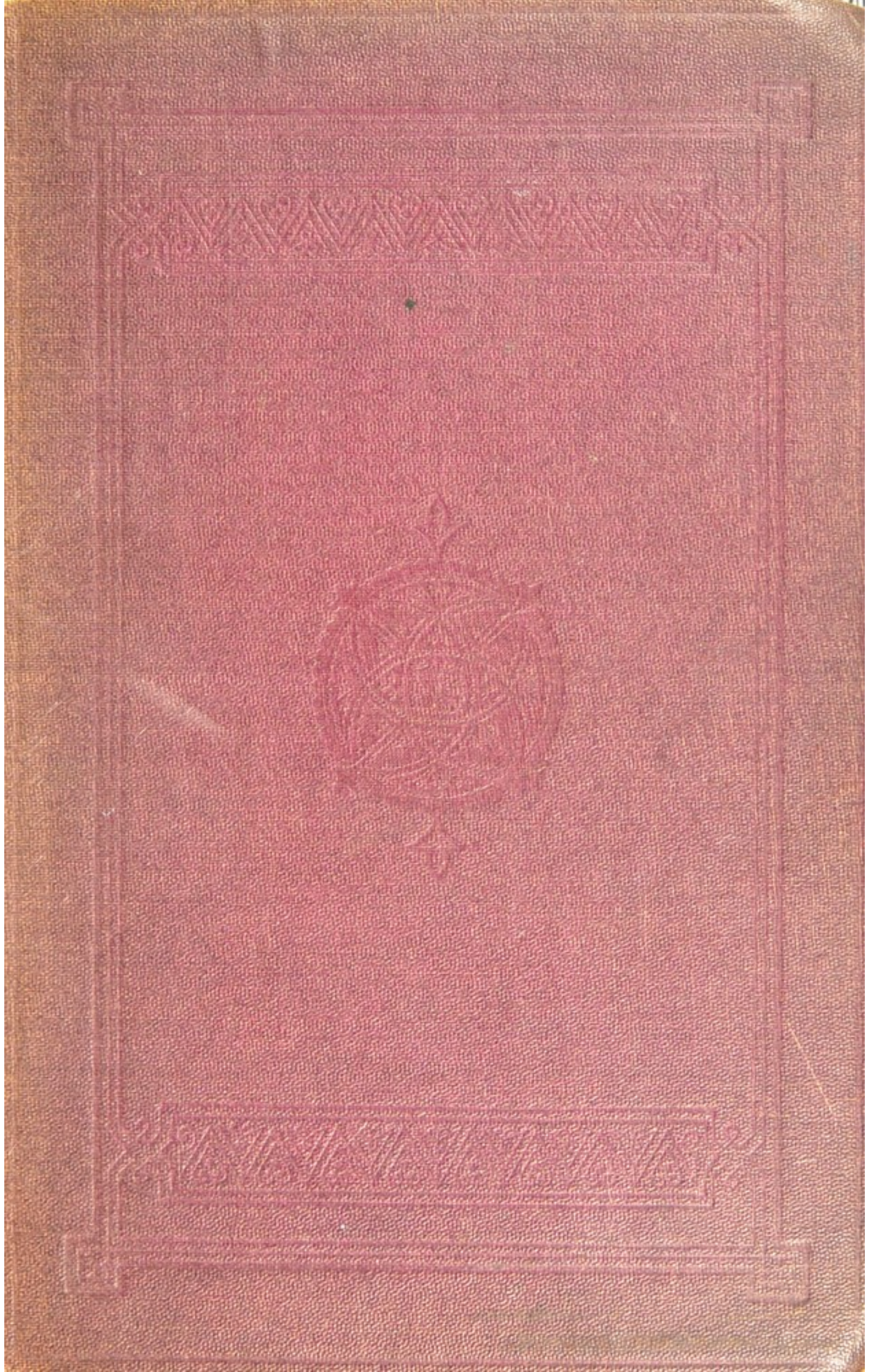
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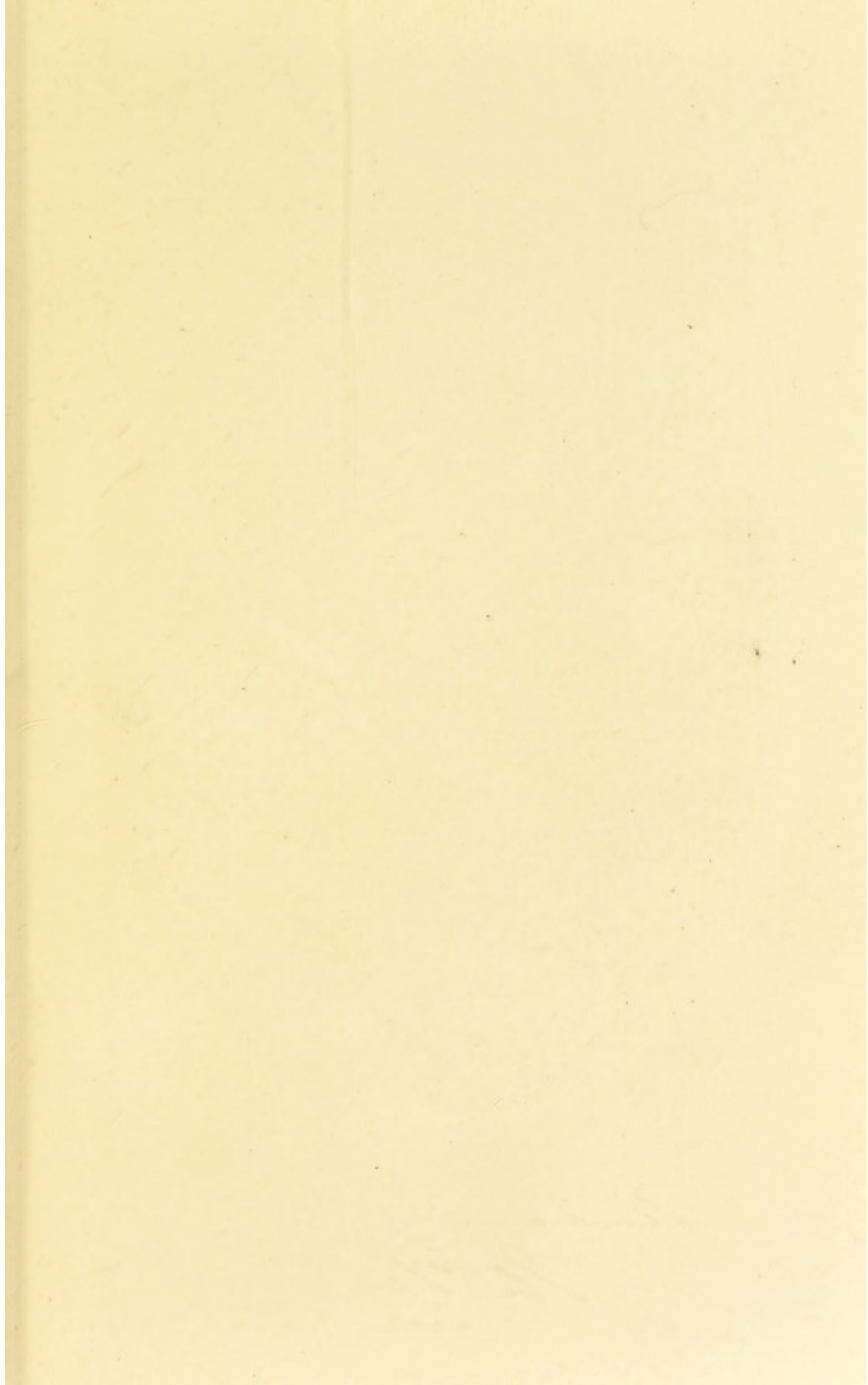
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*July*

MEMOIR  
OF  
THOMAS TURNER.



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Sincerely yours  
Wm. Brewster

*Signed & returned  
July 3 1875*

MEMOIR

OF

THOMAS TURNER, ESQ., F.R.C.S. F.L.S.

MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF  
THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND  
ETC.

BY A RELATIVE.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION.

BY  
THE REV. DAVID BELL, M.D.

VICAR OF EDGEMOND

LONDON:

SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, & CO., STATIONERS'-HALL COURT.

MANCHESTER: J. E. CORNISH.

1875.





Very truly yours  
J. W. [unclear]

*Agnes & Maud  
& Theron  
July 3<sup>rd</sup> 1875*

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1875.



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TO  
THE PRINCIPAL AND PROFESSORS OF THE OWENS COLLEGE,  
AND TO  
THE MEDICAL STUDENTS OF MANCHESTER,

IN THE PROMOTION OF WHOSE WELFARE

THE SUBJECT OF THIS MEMOIR TOOK SO DEEP AND

LIFE-LONG AN INTEREST,

THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED

BY THE AUTHOR.





## INTRODUCTION.

---

SOON AFTER the decease of my dear friend the subject of this memoir, I received a communication from his family expressing their strong desire that I should, if I could possibly spare the necessary time, compile a history of his life and works, for which purpose I could be supplied with abundant material. It was indeed a severe trial to me that I was obliged to decline the honour thus designed for me, because it would have been a labour of love, and doubtless a profitable work to myself, in the highest sense of the expression. But in my present sacred calling, and having been by the Providence of God placed in one of the most onerous parishes in England, I felt on mature reflection that I could not spare as much time as would be required for a work to do justice to a great and good man, without imperilling the best interests of some of the people committed to my charge.

In consequence I communicated to Mr Turner's family my position, and the circumstances which made me determine that it was not in my power to accede to their request. As people of good sense, and Christian feeling, they saw at once the force of, and acquiesced in my refusal.

Some time afterwards I was informed that a relative meant to engage in the work of getting up, on a small



scale, a memoir of their lamented father, and would be glad if I could (even to a small extent) take a share in the work. It was then agreed that I should have the great pleasure of writing a short introduction.

Mr Turner was my friend for many years, and we were in the habit of meeting frequently at public gatherings, especially those of the British Medical Association, of which we had long been members, and for which we had a strong attachment, although we might not always take the same view as to its management. This, however, never for a moment interfered with our friendship; and here I may express my high esteem for the delicate way in which he exercised his forbearance towards all who might differ from him on any subject. He could not bear to entertain a feeling of animosity towards anyone, and would try to work with all who took part in any cause that might tend to promote the welfare of the masses of his fellow-men. I have often watched him, when anything disagreeable occurred at public meetings or dinners, how carefully he endeavoured to soothe the irritation that had ensued; or, when he conceived it to be the better course, that he took no part in the discussion.

He seemed to have thoroughly arrived at the conviction that 'Blessed is the peace-maker.' I determined, after the most mature reflection, to make him my friend, but from what I had observed in himself, and not from what I had heard from others, and when we had more close and frequent intercourse, I was never disappointed in the opinion I had formed of his character, and the selection I had made, for he was to the last, faithful and affectionate to me; and under painful domestic trials, he was often (what one Christian friend should be to another) a great solace to me. A younger brother looking to an older and affectionate one, could not represent my feeling towards



my friend more clearly. I delighted in everything that he did well, and he was well pleased when I accomplished a good thing. I well remember, at the Leamington meeting of the British Medical Association, how gratified he was at the triumph that ensued upon my exertions there on behalf of the Editor of the Journal.

A determined effort was being made to bring about a change in the conduct of the Journal, which, if effected, I and others thought would not only gravely injure the Association, but imperil its existence. I took upon me to move an amendment to the resolution that was proposed, and ably supported by the mover and seconder, and was rewarded by having with me the whole meeting with the exception of two.

In our private intercourse at this meeting, which lasted for two or three days, Mr. Turner and I had real Christian fellowship, and he showed me unmistakably, without any special effort, but from the words that flowed from his lips in our general conversation, how simple and faithful was his belief in the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ.

I desire much to draw attention to a belief that prevails too generally amongst the laity towards medical men, viz., that their views of the Christian religion are very broad. Now, I was connected very closely with the medical profession, as a student and a practitioner of that sacred and noble calling, for twenty-seven years, and my evidence will be given to the contrary. Moreover, I have taken pleasure in associating with medical men in societies, gatherings, and private intercourse, ever since my ordination to Holy Orders, and I fearlessly repeat here, what I have often said in public, that there is no body of men which shows forth daily so much practical Christianity as the venerable members of that profession; and I say not this lightly, but with a conviction of its reality. I only wish



that they would not hesitate to do that which I believe they desire to do (but feel afraid of exceeding the boundaries of their profession, and interfering with that of the clergyman), and would speak a word in season, to let the people whose bodies they are treating know that they need also a physician for their souls, and that medical men believe the members of these two sacred professions can work amicably together, and show to all around them that they are conjointly doing the work of their great Master. This was, indeed, the spirit of him whose memory the following pages are meant to perpetuate. I shall never forget an occurrence at the Oxford meeting of the British Medical Association in 1852. It happened that the great work of reform in the medical profession was at that time the all-absorbing subject with its members; and as I was considered to be one who took a deep interest in it, I was consequently called upon to speak to its necessity. It was my first appearance as a clerico-medicus, and I thought it necessary to speak apologetically, lest some of the brethren of my late profession might think me out of place. I uttered these words: 'Since my last appearance before you, Mr. President and Gentlemen, I have changed from one sacred profession to another still more sacred, and I may be considered out of place,' &c. I was at once overcome by a round of cheers of approval, and after a pause went on with my remarks. This kind, noble, and generous reception showed me how members of the medical profession, from all parts of the kingdom, revered the Christian scheme, and I have ever since clung to my brethren of physic, and will still cling to them, and say, 'With all your faults' (and who is without fault?) 'I love you still.' And I am persuaded that we had a bright example in him whose memory it is our present earnest desire to exalt. The chief leader of medical association



and enterprise (my late lamented friend Sir Charles Hastings) was one who died in the faith as it is in Jesus, and I shall ever remember his goodness and gentleness of disposition ; and who can recal the eloquence and fervour of the late Dr. Cowan, of Reading, without a feeling of delight? And he too lived and died in the Christian faith. And I am at present mourning the loss of a friend who was on a level in my affections with dear Mr. Turner,— I mean Dr. William Beattie, who was the medical attendant and secretary to King William IV. when His Royal Highness was visiting the Courts of Germany as Duke of Clarence, before he came to the throne.

Dr. Beattie was the intimate friend and biographer of Campbell, and the devoted friend of Rogers, and was considered by many to equal either of them in his poetry and history ; and he also, at the ripe age of eighty-two, has fallen asleep in Jesus. I speak thus for the sake of the profession which was my early choice, and I shall pray as long as I live for the temporal and spiritual wellbeing of its members, and that they may all, after their glorious work is done here, die in the faith of Hastings, Beattie, Cowan, and Turner.

And now I cannot but feel what a great pleasure it will be to the many friends of the late Mr. Turner and his family to have in their possession this memoir, as a means of bringing before their mind's eye a vivid picture of his early, middle, and matured life ; and I would ask them in tracing it to see an example of a well-trained student, a diligent labourer in his profession, a successful teacher, a cheerful and an instructive companion ; and, if they have the responsibility of parents, to profit by the history of their late friend, both as a man, and a Christian.

How lovely it is to see the man of cultivated mind bowing at the footstool of his Maker and Redeemer, and



by the aid of the Spirit, confessing that 'Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning,' and desiring to give to Him all praise, knowing whence the power has been received to accomplish what has been done. An affectionate son and brother, a loving husband and father, a generous friend—all these met in him of whom I now write. May it be the ambition of all who read these comments to struggle to attain such qualities. I looked upon Mr. Turner as an example illustrating what my experience has borne out, that when a man of well-cultivated and intellectual mind has once brought that mind to bear upon the Christian scheme, and listens to the arguments of an earnest and well-informed minister of the Gospel, he will not only receive that scheme but in due course be satisfied of its infinite value, and will remain firmly attached to it. Mere impressions upon religion, taken up hastily by men from others, are, on the contrary, liable to pass away. The value of St. Paul's preaching, wherein he argued every point with his adversary, or others with whom he came in contact, sets forth a mode of teaching the principles of Christianity which, to my mind, should be an example for teachers of the present day. Enlightened Christianity is needed to meet the arguments of the moral philosopher, as well as of the infidel and the scoffer, and it will be well to eschew formality on the one hand, and ignorant enthusiasm on the other. In a word, we must get, both for ourselves and for our children, as large an amount as possible of religious knowledge, drinking deeply from the fountain of Holy Scripture, and both in arguments and works build upon the only sound foundation,—God's ever-blessed Word.

D. B.

THE VICARAGE, GOOLE :

*April 9, 1875.*



## AUTHOR'S PREFACE.



THERE is but little that I wish to say in the way of preface to this work.

My very intimate connection with Mr. Turner fitted me, in some respects, to undertake this record of his life; but in others I cannot but regret that no more suitable biographer could be found.

‘Full of honours, and at the ripe age of eighty-one,’ wrote the Editor of the ‘British Medical Journal,’ in an obituary notice which appeared in the number for Dec. 27, 1873, ‘Mr. Turner has passed quietly away, leaving many persons to regret him, and to hold his memory in honour.’ And further on, in the same article: ‘What Mr. Turner was publicly, he was also professionally: scientific, earnest, charitable, and trustworthy. These qualities won for him wide respect and deserved success. . . . He was much known, and highly esteemed in London, and in other capitals; and will long be remembered as one of the provincial worthies who, by their influence and personal worth have done much to bring provincial medicine and surgery into the position of prominence and equality which it now occupies in this country.’<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> An obituary notice of Mr. Turner appeared also in the number of ‘The Lancet,’ bearing the same date.



In the Hunterian Oration recently delivered in London, at the Royal College of Surgeons, by Frederick Le Gros Clark, Esq., F.R.C.S., F.R.S., upon whose distinguished medical position, as President of the College, it is needless to comment, he thus spoke : ' Thomas Turner was, in one sense, the Father of our Council, for he was the senior of all his colleagues in years, though not in service. He became a member of this College in 1816, and as early as 1824 he took an active part in founding the Manchester School of Medicine, which is the first provincial school that had a recognised curriculum. For twenty-five years he acted as Surgeon to the Manchester Infirmary, and was associated with almost every good work in any way allied with his profession in that great city. Mr. Turner is the author of several works of professional value and interest.

' Although for many years a provincial member of our Council, Mr. Turner did not take a very active part in the management of its affairs ; but he was sincerely esteemed by us for his personal qualities, as well as for the traditional interest associated with his name. He was a good man in the highest acceptation of that word. His strong religious convictions and benevolent impulses were not dissipated in sentiment, but were manifested in his daily life. Gentle, courteous, and truthful, he was yet firm in the reproof of vice, as he was thoughtful and anxious in promoting what his conscience approved ; and his energy seemed equal to his duties, until at last, for a brief period, physical infirmity compelled him to relax, and he expired at the close of 1873, at the ripe age of eighty-one. No wonder that such a man was respected and beloved in his life, and that his loss has left a blank in the hearts of the many in whose service the vigour of that long and active life had been unselfishly expended.'

It was not fitting that such a career should pass away



unrecorded; it was right that the illustrative features of such a character should be gathered up and preserved, and it is under the pressure of this conviction that I have undertaken the present work. Peculiar difficulties have attended the preparation of this memoir, into which it is superfluous to enter, and they would have proved insuperable but for the Providentially given, willing, and loving help of one who desires to be nameless, but to whom my warmest thanks are rendered, as also to others who have most kindly aided me.

My sincerest acknowledgments are due to the learned Principal and Professors of the Owens College, for kindly permitting the following pages to be dedicated to them; also to the Rev. Dr. Bell, who was invited to prepare this memoir, but was prevented from doing so, and who has been so good as to write the Introduction.

To the friends who have kindly entrusted me with letters addressed to them, and allowed me to make use of others penned by themselves, I would offer my grateful thanks. I desire especially to acknowledge the valuable assistance rendered by Mr. Leo Grindon, in the preparation of the third and fourth chapters of this work, and the very kind help which I have received from that gentleman in other ways.

My endeavour has been simply to link together the various portions of Mr. Turner's life, and to introduce his thoughts, as far as possible, in his own language, feeling assured that this would be far more acceptable to the reader than any other plan. I have commented but little upon the narrative thus presented. A character of moral and intellectual power will speak for itself to the hearts and minds of those who contemplate it, and requires only to be accurately portrayed.

The arrangement of the following pages has been truly



a work of love to myself, and I feel cheered by the belief that, notwithstanding many literary defects which may be detected, it will be welcomed by those for whom it has been prepared—the many attached friends who long to know more of the early career, and to have a deeper insight into the inner life of one whom they have esteemed as a man of science, loved as a friend, and confided in as a physician.

Two lessons have deeply impressed themselves upon my own mind in pondering Mr. Turner's life; and if to those who read these pages, and especially to the Medical Students of Manchester, the same lessons are conveyed, I shall feel abundantly thankful.

The first is, that if true distinction in life is to be achieved, it must be sought in the combination of industry and principle with talent, and not in the latter apart from the former.

And the second is, that intellectual power and scientific attainment are not inconsistent with (but are seen in their truest dignity when united to) that simple faith which leads us to 'receive the kingdom of God as a little child,' remembering our Blessed Lord's solemn admonition that, if we fail in this, we shall 'in nowise enter therein.'

What Mr. Turner was he became through grace, notwithstanding the powers of mind with which he was endowed, and to the Great Bestower of every gift the praise is due for all his servant was enabled to accomplish which has been according to His will.

In conclusion, I would say how earnestly I have desired to do full justice to the memory of all the friends who, at any time or in any way, co-operated with Mr. Turner in the promotion of the scientific projects or philanthropic schemes in which he took so deep an interest. If any names have been omitted which ought to have been intro-

duced, or if to any person or persons a larger share of commendation should have been accorded, I shall deeply regret all such inadvertent omissions, and can only assure my readers how conscientiously I have endeavoured to render honour where I knew honour to be due.

May 15, 1875.





# CONTENTS.



## CHAPTER I.

	PAGE
Early Life and Education . . . . .	1

## CHAPTER II.

Student Life in Bristol, London, and Paris—Weston-super-Mare . . . . .	10
--	----

## CHAPTER III.

Journey from London to Paris . . . . .	29
--	----

## CHAPTER IV.

Paris—The Palais Royal—The Catacombs—The Louvre, &c. . . . .	37
--	----

## CHAPTER V.

Mr. Turner receives an Appointment in Manchester ; holds it until the Summer of 1820, and then settles in Practice . . . . .	45
--	----

## CHAPTER VI.

Extracts from Diary—Family Bereavements . . . . .	55
---	----

## CHAPTER VII.

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society—Mr. Turner elected a Member, and shortly afterwards one of the Council—Visit to the Lakes—Delivers his first Course of Lectures in the Rooms of the Literary and Philosophical Society—Handsome Testimonial at the conclusion of the Course . . . . .	66
---	----



## CHAPTER VIII.

	PAGE
Mr. Turner's Views upon the Standard of Attainment to which those engaged in the Medical Profession should seek to rise—The first School of Medicine ever Established in the Provinces Opened by Mr. Turner in Manchester, in 1824, and fully organised in the year following—Correspondence with the Leading Men of various Colleges .	79

## CHAPTER IX.

Mr. Turner's Views upon Medical Education, as expressed by him in a Pamphlet issued in the year 1825 . . . . .	99
--	----

## CHAPTER X.

Mr. Turner's Marriage—Happy Domestic Life—Letter of Congratulation from Mr. Duck—Correspondence—Views upon Education—Death of Mrs. Richard Smith, and of Mrs. Clarke . . . . .	111
--	-----

## CHAPTER XI.

Establishment of Additional Schools of Medicine in Manchester—Opening of the New Buildings in Pine Street—Succession of various Provincial Medical Schools—The Anatomy Bill—Mr. Turner summoned by the House of Commons to give Evidence before the Medical Education Committee—Successful Issue—Elected Surgeon to the Manchester Royal Infirmary—Extracts from Diary—Proposed College . . . . .	127
---	-----

## CHAPTER XII.

Deepening Religious Interest—Extracts from Diary—Mr. Clarke's Death—Address upon Medical Education, delivered in 1840—Instinct and Reason—Further Extracts from Diary . . . . .	142
---	-----

## CHAPTER XIII.

Manchester Royal Institution—Mr. Turner made Honorary Professor in 1843—Severe Illness—First public Distribution of Prizes in connection with the Royal School of Medicine—Ashfield, Pendleton—Thoughts upon Education—Henry Bagley Clarke—Death of Mr. Edmund Turner, M.P.—Ashfield, Whalley Range—Marriage of Mr. Turner's Eldest Daughter—Visit of the Queen to Manchester—Establishment of the Manchester and Salford Sanitary Association . . . . .	170
--	-----



## CHAPTER XIV.

	PAGE
Domestic Sorrows—The Medical a Humane Profession—Establishment of the Chatham Street School of Medicine, and its ultimate Union with the Royal School—Deaf and Dumb School at Old Trafford—Laying the Foundation-stone and Opening of the Infant School—Adult Deaf and Dumb Society—Mrs. Turner's Death . . . . .	186

## CHAPTER XV.

Correspondence—Mrs. Plummer's Death—Mr. Turner Elected to the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, England—Continued Energy—Further Correspondence—Testimonial from the Governesses' Institution—Union of the Royal School of Medicine in Manchester with the Owens College—Inaugural Address upon this occasion . . . . .	199
---	-----

## CHAPTER XVI.

Mr. Turner as the sympathising Friend of his Patients—His Power of winning their Confidence and Attachment—Correspondence with some of them in Illustration of this—Characteristic Incidents and Professional Anecdotes—The Christian Physician and his Dying Patient . . . . .	227
---	-----

## CHAPTER XVII.

Further Correspondence—Sanitary Association Inaugural Address in 1872—Failing Health—Letters—Last Course of Lectures—Temporary rallying—Presides at the Annual Meeting of the Manchester and Salford Sanitary Association—Dr. Crace Calvert—Health fails again—Opening of the Owens College Buildings—Acquiescence with God's Will—Patient Endurance—Last Sayings—Peaceful Departure. 250	250
---	-----

## CHAPTER XVIII.

Marton Churchyard—General Feeling upon the Announcement of Mr. Turner's Death—Votes of Condolence from Public Bodies—More Private Expressions of Feeling—Conclusion . . . . .	273
---	-----

*Erratum.*

Page 84, line 1, *for 1817 read 1814.*



# MEMOIR.

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## CHAPTER I.

### EARLY LIFE AND EDUCATION.

THE subject of these pages was born on the 13th of August, 1793, and was the youngest child of Mr. Edmund Turner, banker, Truro. His mother's maiden name was Joanna Ferris, and the family consisted of three sons and two daughters. From a black-letter Bible, which has been in the family since the year 1598, and from other records which have been handed down, it appears that the family was originally a Hertford one, and date their entrance into Cornwall from the appointment of the Rev. John Turner, M.A., to the vicarage of Treneglos and Warbstow, in the year 1635.

These, however, were troublous times, and the vicar's conscientious convictions subjected him to great hardships, of which an account is given in 'Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy,' published in 1714. As the book is now a rare one, the following extract, referring to the Rev. J. Turner, may prove interesting to the reader:—

'He was born at Hempstead,<sup>1</sup> near St. Albans, in the county of Hertford, and educated at Clare Hall, Cambridge, under the tuition of Mr. (afterwards the learned and worthy Dr.) James Halsie, by whose interest with the then Lord Chancellor (to whom Dr. Halsie was chaplain) he was promoted to this living (Treneglos and Warbstow), about the year 1635 or 1636.

<sup>1</sup> Walker does not mention the date of the Rev. John Turner's birth, but it was March 1600.



‘ Upon the breaking out of the Rebellion he was called in question among the first of the loyal clergy in this county, and not only sequestered, but in danger of his life, being indicted for “Words against the Parliament;” to avoid the fury of which he fled the country, and lived abroad incognito as long as he could get money to subsist; but that failing in time, he was forced to come home, where they soon seized his person, and made him enter into recognisance to answer at the assizes, where he scarcely escaped being condemned of treason; but was found so far guilty as to have a pecuniary mulct imposed upon him, and to lie in prison till he paid it.’

Thus far his own son, the present Vicar of Treneglos,<sup>1</sup> accounts for the sufferings of his very worthy father, to which another gentleman adds: ‘That he was not only sequestered from his living, but was violently turned out of the vicarage-house, and not permitted to have any part of the fruit and herbs growing in the garden, which he himself had tilled, and for taking some once out of the same was threatened to be prosecuted for felony. And he was so much impoverished by the prevailing powers that he was forced to employ himself by husbandry in order to get bread for his family. He had, indeed, a small estate of his own, but it was too little to support him, and therefore he rented a small parcel of ground which lay adjoining, where he left a lasting monument of the hardships to which he was driven; I mean two stone fences, one on either side of a public road (I think through the parish of Warbstow), which he built with his own hands, whilst he turned farmer, or rather day-labourer, on the two small parcels of ground before mentioned; they are (as I have heard) the more taken notice of by such as go that way and have kept up the memory of his sufferings in the neighbourhood, because they are the neatest and strongest in all the country.’

<sup>1</sup> This statement is inaccurate, as no son of Mr. Turner's ever succeeded him in the living of Treneglos and Warbstow. The son referred to would appear, therefore, to be the Rev. John Turner, who was instituted to the vicarage of St. Genny's on June 23, 1663; and as this parish adjoins that of Treneglos and Warbstow, the mistake has no doubt arisen in this way.



From the old Family Bible previously referred to it appears that Mr. Turner was descended from this worthy man through the Rev. Charles Turner, who was instituted to the vicarage of Davidstow in 1682; his youngest son, Edmund, born in 1698, being the grandfather of the subject of this memoir.

The three family names of Charles, Edmund, and Thomas were given by Mr. Turner, of Truro, to his three sons, and a few words in reference to the eldest and second of these sons may not be misplaced before passing on to the early life of that one with whose history we are more immediately concerned.

Mr. Turner's countenance was a striking one, and almost all the members of his family inherited his aquiline nose and strongly-marked features, and with these the energy and decision of character which all physiognomists agree in asserting to be the uniform accompaniment of this style of face.

Mr. Turner's three sons were illustrations of the truth of this theory, though it was in a totally different direction that the characteristic energy of each was developed.

The eldest, Charles Walsingham, entered the army, and sailed for India in the year 1809. His destination was Calcutta, and from his arrival there he applied himself with such diligence to the acquirement of languages that the Public Examiners of the College of Fort William declared he had made proficiency in Hindoostanee, Arabic, and Persian so high as to entitle him to a degree of honour in each of those languages, which degree was conferred upon him, in conformity with the above statement, by 'His Excellency the Right Honorable Francis Earl of Moira, K.G., Governor-General and Visitor of the College, on the 20th June 1814.'

In the early part of the year 1815 Charles Turner was called into active service, and received a severe wound in his right arm, to his recovery from which he alludes (in a letter to his sister-in-law, on July 15, and written with his left hand), as having been more tedious than he expected, 'owing to the shattered state of the bone;' adding, 'the wound, however, has closed, but has left a weakness in my



right which time only can remove.' He also took part in the 'Battle of Bareilly,' and for his gallant conduct upon this occasion was presented with a handsome sword, engraved with the Turner arms, and bearing the inscription, 'Bareilly, April 21, 1816.'

He was again in active service in the year 1817, and in 1818 he so distinguished himself by his bravery that the following honourable mention was made of his conduct:—

*'General Orders by the Commander-in-Chief.'*

'Head Quarters, Camp Chudjaulee, 7th Feb., 1818.

'The Commander-in-Chief has received with sentiments of admiration the official details of the attack by the troops under Major-General Brown on the town of Jhawud, and the troops of Jeswunt Rao Bhow, on the 29th of January. In the details before his Lordship the prominent features are those of clear and decided judgment in the conception of, and the most energetic gallantry in the execution of, the several operations which were so deservedly crowned with success. On the one hand a strong fortified town was stormed by the 1st Bat. 1st Native Infantry, after their blowing open the gate; on the other the camp of Jeswunt Rao Bhow was attacked and carried by the 4th Cavalry and a detachment of the 2nd Rohilla Horse, though defended by cannon; and the approach to it presented great natural difficulties and impediments on all sides, an enterprise in which Captain Ridge, Lieut. Franklin, and Lieut. Turner seem to have distinguished themselves.

'In both attacks the ardour and bravery of the British troops succeeded without a check; the enemy was driven from the town and camp with great loss, and fled in every direction. The Commander-in-Chief requests Major-General Brown's acceptance of his applause, as well as of his best thanks, and desires that the same may be conveyed to every officer and man engaged in this spirited and well-conducted affair. (Signed) JAMES NICOL,

'Adjt.-General to the Army.'

The career of this promising young officer was, how-



ever, soon to be cut short. He received a military appointment in the spring of the year 1821, which led to his leaving Calcutta for Hyderabad in the hot season. On the way he was seized with fever, and his journey was arrested at Vizagapatam, where various unfavourable symptoms made their appearance, and ended fatally, after a few days of severe illness, on May 6.

The second son, Edmund, succeeded his father in the bank at the death of the latter, which took place in 1821, and in the year 1837 was returned as Liberal member for Truro, retaining his seat in Parliament during the remainder of his life.

His extreme cordiality of manner and animated conversational powers rendered him an universal favourite in society, so that he was generally known by the title of 'The Popular Member' in the London circles in which he moved. He died on December 10, 1848, a few hours after his return from the House of Commons, in the debates of which he had taken his usual interest.

Every page of the following memoir will bear evidence to the ardent love of study, energetic prosecution of his profession, and lively personal interest in every philanthropic and scientific project which distinguished the youngest son of this family.

The few incidents in connection with his boyish life which, notwithstanding the lapse of years, have been handed down, are all in keeping with the character of the man. Bright, intelligent, warm-hearted, with overflowing spirits and excellent health, he was ready for anything in the way of fun and sport, and used often to narrate the following incident of his early life:—A lady for whom he had conceived an extreme dislike was upon a visit to his mother; and, entering the room one day, he found this lady surveying herself in a mirror. In entire forgetfulness of the reflective power of the glass, he stole behind her and amused himself by making all sorts of grimaces and contortions to indicate his dislike, when the face of annoyance which was suddenly turned upon him disclosed to the little culprit that all his antics had been observed.

Besides a branch of the beautiful river Fal (which in



its course from Truro to Falmouth is generally known by the name of the Truro river), a small rivulet named the Allan flows through the town of Truro. The banks of this little river are still in parts shady and pretty, and seventy years ago were doubtless still more so ; and it was a favourite sport of the youngsters released from school, and of young Turner among the rest, to fish upon its banks. Here many a summer hour was spent ; and in their boyish glee they would declare that not even the Falls of Niagara could compare with the picturesque cascade which was made in one part of its course by their favourite stream.

In those days, nearly forty years before the discovery of railways, the children of gentlemen were rarely sent, as now, to a distance for education. Until their sons were of an age to go to the University, either Oxford or Cambridge, they were ordinarily compelled to avail themselves of the best scholastic training which was to be found within a moderate distance of their own homes. Truro, however, was in this respect a favoured place, in consequence of its excellent Grammar School ; but some sort of preparatory training was requisite before the youngsters of Truro could take their places upon its venerable forms. Opposite the town green (which remains unchanged, occupying the same space exactly as in former days), stood Miss Warren's day-school. The handsome public buildings of the town, containing library, reading-rooms, &c., now occupy its site, and doubtless also of contiguous buildings, but her little establishment was considered an important one in its day. Miss Warren was a tall, masculine-looking woman, and, as far as physical appearance went, was well qualified, therefore, to exercise the moral control, and enforce the obedience, which were doubtless two of the principal lessons required by her young pupils. The course of instruction was most probably exceedingly limited, including very little beyond reading, writing, and sums ; but her school was useful in its day, and prepared the boys in some small measure for the sterner discipline of the Grammar School ; for Miss Warren's rules admitted of



great relaxation according to the worthy woman's convenience, and her pupils appear to have been sometimes sent on little errands during school-hours which they were not loth to undertake. No doubt these errands were intended by her as a reward for well-said lessons, but the good lady got into trouble occasionally for the laxity of her rule. Young Turner, who was among her scholars, and who in his own family and among his school-fellows always went by the name of 'Tom,' was one day sent by Miss Warren to buy some fish. Probably he exceeded his commission, for his purchase proved a large one; and as he was only a small boy, he amused himself by dragging it through the streets by its tail, and was in the full enjoyment of the frolic when, at a turn of the street, he was confronted by his worthy father.

The sequel of the story is soon told. With the decision which was characteristic of the family, Mr. Turner removed his son, and Tom speedily found himself transferred from Miss Warren's forms to the venerable oaken benches of the Grammar School. This old-fashioned edifice stands at the distance of a few hundred yards from the parish church of St. Mary. It is a detached building, surrounded by a small playground, and surmounted by a belfry. It is separated from the thoroughfare by an iron palisade, in the middle of which is the entrance-gate, and the visitor has to step down from the main street into the enclosure; the level of the school-yard being now below that of the street. The building is oblong; the door is at the end nearest the street, and two fluted pillars support the roof. At the upper end of the school is a representation in plaster bas-relief of a ship in full sail—the Truro arms; and upon each side, running the entire length of the building, are three or four rows of old oaken desks, with their corresponding forms, and upon these venerable fixtures of the school successive generations of pupils have carved their names, till not a place remains upon which another can be inscribed without obliterating some previous initials. Doubtless many names have been thus rendered indistinct, which would not otherwise have been without a measure of interest, though that of Henry Martyn, the



missionary (who was a native of Truro), can still be deciphered. A characteristic **T T** in simple and bold letters is, however, plain, suggesting the possibility of their connection with the subject of these pages, whose professional epistles were indeed fully signed, but who in his familiar correspondence usually adopted only the initials of his name, and in whose general writing there was a thorough disdain of all superfluous ornament truly in keeping with the manly simplicity which constituted one of his best characteristics.

The inhabitants of Truro were favoured in having at that time very able teaching provided in the Grammar School for their sons. Dr. Cornelius Cardew was the master, a very eminent scholar, and under his excellent management the school attained a very high and well-deserved reputation. By whom the Grammar School was established is not known, but two exhibitions of £30 per annum at Exeter College, Oxford, for scholars of Truro School, were founded by the trustees of the charitable bequests of the Rev. St. John Elliot, who died in 1760, and these exhibitions stirred the emulation and quickened the intellectual energies of the pupils. Dr. Cardew lived in the house next to the school; and as many parents who probably resided at an inconvenient distance sought to place their sons under his care, Dr. Cardew's residence was soon filled with boarders, and he was compelled to take the house adjoining, in order to accommodate all the pupils who came to him. Young Turner did not, however, enjoy the teaching of this eminent master during the whole of his school career. Dr. Cardew accepted a living in the neighbourhood, and resigned the school, which passed into the hands of another master, who was, no doubt, an able man, but who does not appear to have enjoyed the high reputation which Dr. Cardew gained.

One interesting anecdote has been handed down of young Turner's school-days. Some disagreement had arisen between himself and another boy, which they arranged to settle in the usual way—by a fight—and in this contest Tom was successful; but no sooner had he thrown his antagonist on the ground, than, forbearing to



avail himself further in any way of the advantage he had secured, he held out his hand to his schoolfellow to help him up, saying, 'Now shake hands, and put your arm in mine, and we'll walk round the school-yard together.'

But this is the only incident which has been preserved of young Turner's life at the Grammar School. His generation has passed away. It is impressive to think of the widely divergent paths and, in all probability, distantly scattered graves of the mirthful band who with him assembled for education within its walls.

But we have now to follow the course of one whose career was both honourable and bright. His 'sun did not go down at noon,' but set, at a ripened old age, in the peaceful glory which a hope full of immortality can alone impart. Let us hope that such was the end of many whose histories it is not given to us to trace.

## CHAPTER II.

## STUDENT LIFE IN BRISTOL, LONDON, AND PARIS.

YOUNG TURNER'S school education being now completed, the important question of his future path in life had to be duly weighed and decided. Mr. Turner had his own strong feelings upon the point, and desired greatly to send his youngest son to either Oxford or Cambridge, with a view to his ordination.

Upon discussing the subject, however, with his son, he was disappointed to find that his wishes met with no sympathy. It has been remarked, and with great truth, that the most gifted and powerful minds possess usually a keen sense of both the ludicrous and the pathetic. Those whose brightness and wit enliven society are often found to be, in their pensive hours, the most deeply thoughtful, and probably it was the observation of these characteristics in his son—characteristics which continued to mark him throughout his entire life—which led Mr. Turner to think of the clerical profession as suitable for his son. Fond of fun and full of vivacity though he was, every member of the family knew well that if the bell of St. Mary's had been heard to toll, and it was not during school-hours, Tom most assuredly would be found among the spectators of the solemn rite, silent and thoughtful.

Many an hour was spent in reading the gravestones, and all who knew him intimately in more advanced life and had the pleasure of travelling with him at any time, well recollect the way in which he would always direct his steps to the country churchyard in any place that he visited, spending an hour or two there, as in his boyish days. This pensive turn of mind is peculiarly interesting



in his case, on account of its combination with an energy of character which was remarkable.

But, to return to our subject. After many earnest conversations with his son upon the question of his own fondly cherished hopes, Mr. Turner wisely forebore to press his wishes, and determined that the youth should follow the bent of his own inclinations, and that he would give him every facility for carrying out his views.

His bent appears to have been clear and unwavering from the first. The medical profession was that upon which his heart was set. There was no trace of, nor was he ever in later life heard to mention any circumstance as having contributed to the formation of this decision. With an intuitive perception of his own tastes and capabilities he appears to have unhesitatingly selected the path in life for which his talents most suited him; and it would be well, and there would be less of wasted intellectual power in the world, if such an intuitive perception were more frequently met with.

Provincial medical schools were not then in existence, and young men who were being educated for the profession were therefore usually sent to some large town affording good opportunities for the study of hospital practice, where they were apprenticed to some resident surgeon, under whose care their studies were for a time pursued, until a certain amount of preparatory knowledge having been acquired, they were considered competent to go up to London, attend the courses of lectures delivered there, and pass the necessary examinations at Apothecaries' Hall and the College of Surgeons. In pursuance of this usual course Mr. Turner sent his son to Bristol, and apprenticed him to Mr. Nehemiah Duck, one of the surgeons of St. Peter's Hospital, in that city. Young Turner thus became a resident in the house of this worthy man, who belonged to the Society of Friends, and for whom he ever afterwards entertained feelings of deep respect, on account of the uniform sincerity, kindness, and consistency of his conduct, and under his guidance he commenced his studies.

Mr. Duck had married one of the daughters of Dr.



Pole, author of 'The Anatomical Instructor,' and this was the young student's first professional book, with the contents of which he made himself thoroughly acquainted.

The well-known philanthropist Richard Reynolds was a constant visitor at Mr. Duck's house, so that young Turner knew him well, and his early intercourse with this good man was no doubt of use in nurturing those seeds of philanthropy which were so prominently developed in his later life.

In addition to his medical studies he was anxious to keep up and also improve his classical knowledge, and for this purpose he took lessons from Mr. Isaac James, author of a prose work upon Milton's 'Paradise Lost,' with notes, and brother-in-law to the celebrated divine Robert Hall, of Leicester. Referring to this early portion of his career, and the contact into which he was thrown with this good man, Mr. Turner wrote, a few years ago: 'I knew him very intimately, and oftentimes when I took my lessons Mr. Hall would be reclining on a sofa in the same room, evidently in great suffering, and under the influence of opium for the relief of pain in the back. He lived, however, many years after this period.'

The eminent Dr. Kentish, Dr. Prichard, and Dr. H. Fox were at that time physicians to St. Peter's Hospital, and Mr. Duck, Mr. Davis, and Mr. Salmon were connected with it as surgeons; and it is not surprising that this amusing association of names should have led the medical students at the hospital, in their unrestrained intercourse with each other, to style their three worthy instructors Dr. Fox, Mr. Salmon, and Mr. Duck occasionally by the familiar names of 'Fish, Flesh, and Fowl.' Young Turner had a further opportunity of pursuing his study of anatomy and physiology under the able teaching of Mr. Shute and Mr. Gold, and may thus be said to have commenced his career at Bristol under the most favourable auspices, both moral and scientific, and the advantages of his position were not lost upon him.

His ardour, regularity, and diligence in study soon attracted the notice of the Governor and medical officers of the Institution, who promoted him to several appoint-



ments in the Hospital, and for four years he acted as *post-mortem* examiner.

Mr. Duck appears to have taken a great personal interest in the medical training of the students in Bristol; and eight or ten years later, when the subject of provincial medical education was engrossing Mr. Turner's deepest attention, many letters passed between them respecting it, which are still preserved, and show the strong personal regard and mutual respect which, notwithstanding the difference of age, cemented the friendship commenced between the pupil and his teacher in these early days. It could scarcely be otherwise; for in Mr. Turner's case the ardent love of study was associated with such a happy and genial temperament, that these combined qualities won the affection and esteem of all those who surrounded him. It was with an almost fatherly interest that Mr. Duck watched over his career; and when, from his own bedroom-window, he saw to what a late hour at night, or rather early hour in the morning, the young student's light was burning, Mr. Duck's exhortations with his young friend upon the injury to his health which his protracted hours of study might occasion were such as might have fallen from a father's lips. Mr. Turner's zeal, however, could not be thus curbed; and to prevent the distress and anxiety of feeling which the worthy surgeon showed, he veiled his bedroom-window at night that so the light of his candle might no longer be observed.

But though Mr. Turner's profession thus early engrossed his thoughts and riveted his attention, it must not be supposed that he encountered no difficulties at the outset of his career. Such difficulties bar the way to all our learned professions, for there is no easy method of acquiring deep and abiding knowledge; and to a young man of sensitive feelings peculiar obstacles present themselves in the medical profession which must be surmounted in order to acquire the requisite information. The most formidable are the dissecting-room and the operating-theatre, and from both of these Mr. Turner shrank during the first twelve months of his student course. The first



revolted him ; and his kindness of heart made him recoil from the sight of pain, even though he knew it was to secure the good and ultimate relief of the sufferer ; and so strong were his feelings upon these points that he heartily repented his choice for a time, and was only deterred from the relinquishment of his profession by the remembrance of his own strongly-expressed decision in its favour when his father had desired another path in life for him. These were his feelings, however, only during the first twelve months of his career, and then an entire change took place. The science of his profession from that time forward engrossed his mind, and its philanthropy captivated his heart, and nothing would have induced him to relinquish a profession which he ever afterwards regarded as the very noblest which can engage the human mind. His ardent study, however, at last began to tell (as Mr. Duck had apprehended), upon the young student's health ; and in the early part of the summer of 1815 it became apparent that he absolutely required some temporary rest from his mental labours, and some change of air and scene. To secure this needful rest and change he decided to spend a week at Weston-super-Mare, though circumstances afterwards led him to extend his visit. His active mind, however, could not be without occupation, and the following account of his fortnight's rest, which he sent home with the accompanying note to his father, will be read with interest by those who are now acquainted with this large and fashionable watering-place, because of the graphic picture which it presents of Weston as it was nearly sixty years ago. The tone of respectful deference which characterises the note is also interesting as a sample of the way in which the fathers of that day were accustomed to be addressed by their sons :—

‘ My dear Father,—As my medical friends were of opinion that my indisposition demanded immediate change of air, and a temporary respite from my professional avocations, by your consent I left Bristol in order to comply with their advice. Having employed some of my leisure hours in writing an account of the manner in which I



spent the last fortnight in June, and the places at which I spent it, as much with a view to your amusement as to my own advantage, I hope that the defects in the composition will not annihilate the intent. If there be any egregious errors, as being too verbose in describing, want of order, or such like, I will thank you to correct and tell me of them, as that is the most certain guide to future improvement; but the more trifling ones I must beg you to overlook, or else impute their origin to my inattention to the correction of those minutiae which to pass over in a performance designed for public reading would be highly inexcusable. Adieu.

‘ I am, &c., your affectionate son,

‘ THOS. TURNER.

‘ In consequence of my health not being in a very perfect state it was proposed and thought advisable by all my friends that I should spend a week at Weston-super-Mare (which is distanced about twenty miles from Bristol) for the benefit of the sea-air, as it is the nearest watering-place to the city, therefore much resorted to by the Bristolians. For this purpose I left June 17th, 1815, and after about three hours’ journey arrived at Weston, where, after considerable difficulty, I succeeded in getting very comfortable lodgings. For the first three or four days, as my acquaintance with persons in this place was extremely limited, I employed myself in visiting those places in the neighbourhood that were most mountainous, consequently commanding much more extensive prospects; but I will begin with describing the village of Weston-super-Mare and its immediate vicinity, and then proceed to the description of any place which may be worth observing afterwards. Weston is a very small village, consisting, I suppose, of not more than about thirty houses; the major number of these are new, indeed I may say built within the past ten years. A lady informed me that about thirteen years ago she was recommended to go to Weston for the benefit of her health, which was in a very precarious state; she was quite unacquainted with the place, therefore entertained an idea beforehand that everything



was to be found there that would render an invalid comfortable. On her arrival she was not a little surprised to find out her mistake. At that time there were but four or perhaps at the utmost six houses in the place; these were of mean appearance, and chiefly occupied by fishermen. After being there a week her appetite became almost insatiable, and it was with great difficulty that she could procure eatables of any description to allay the constant sensation of hunger which the salutary influence of the sea-air occasioned. She told me that so badly were they off for provisions, that frequently they were obliged to eat bread that was completely turned mouldy, and their substitute for butter was generally liquefied bacon-fat: from this I think you may form no very imperfect conception of the improvement that Weston has undergone within the short space of about twelve years. But to proceed. About three years since, from this place being much frequented by persons who would perhaps come and spend a day or two in the week, and from the increasing population, it was judged a good speculation by a spirited individual who resided there, and who was possessed of the pecuniary means of doing it, to build an inn, which, after a little consideration about the expense, was begun and accomplished. It is built in a neat though not in an extravagant style, and is now let at the yearly rent of about £70. The situation is delightfully pleasant, about 100 or 150 yards from the shore, and this may be seen from almost every window in the house. . . . .

‘The sea-shore is for the most part sand; here and there we may see small spaces covered over with pebbles of different sizes, but so large as to render walking on them very rugged and unpleasant. The strand is about two miles and a half in length, in breadth not more than about one-eighth of a mile; at the very extremity of the land on the left hand we come to a cluster of small rocks, by which, at low water, we may arrive at a rock that rises considerably above the sea, which is called Black Rock (from its being so in colour), and which is very generally insulated. About a half or three-quarters of a mile behind this is a church, which is situated on the summit of a very



high hill, and is called Uphill Church, being the parish church to a little village below the hill, and which, perhaps, derives its name from the very uncommon hill which is near it. On the Monday after my arrival at Weston I walked to Uphill Church, the ascent to which I found unusually difficult, insomuch that when I was about half-way up my fatigue would fain have urged me to return, but my rage for visiting churchyards and churches and reading epitaphs is such, that 'tis not a little that will obstruct my way to either, and after much trouble I reached the top. At the extremity of the strand, on the right, there is another rock, which is called Nine Stone,<sup>1</sup> and which is commonly an island. On this the invalids frequently stand to view the turbulent waves spending all their vengeance against its sides. The scene is, indeed, sometimes beyond description grand, and in me it always excites an emotion which a removal from the scene is alone capable of suppressing. Just above the sea-shore there are some mountains; and if a person will summon up the courage and resolution to get to the top of the highest, he is more than repaid for his toil, by the extent, beauty, and grandeur of the scenery. I have frequently ascended, and with reluctance have always come down again, for never before did I see a prospect so beautifully varied; to enter upon a description would indeed be vain. Suffice it to say that it comprises hills, mountains, rocks, islands, isthmuses, sea, ships, towns, villages, fields, wood, churches, and innumerable other objects. About a mile and a half from the village of Weston, or three-quarters from the rock last mentioned (Nine Stone), there is another island known by the name of *Burn Back*, but from what it receives it I cannot tell you. From it we have a fine view of the Welsh coast on the opposite side; we have also a very good view of the Steep and Flat Holms, two very large islands in the Bristol Channel. On the latter is erected a lighthouse, which, together with the extent, situation, and other things connected with it, I shall by and by enter upon a full description of. Of Weston and its immediate neighbourhood I think I have

<sup>1</sup> Now known as Knight Stone.



said sufficient. During the whole of the first week of my absence I felt extremely desirous to sail to the Flat Holms, conscious that I should derive both pleasure and benefit from it, but unfortunately I could get no one to accompany me. On the Saturday morning following my arrival at Weston, whilst I was walking on the sea-shore, a person, knowing that I was anxious to visit the Holms, ran up to me and told me of there being a skiff off, which belonged to the island, and which seemed to be sailing thitherward. At this I was exceedingly rejoiced, and desired him to hail her, which he did, and the man brought the boat to the shore. On board he had a mason, who was going over to measure some work, and who designed (*Deo volente*) returning the same evening. This opportunity I would not let pass; therefore said that I would be with them in half an hour, if they would wait for me. . . . . After finishing breakfast, with all possible speed I hastened to the shore, where the boat was in waiting to receive me, and we set sail. When we were about two miles, or perhaps nearly a league off shore, a brisk gale sprang up. . . . . We weathered this for about two hours and a half, or three hours, when we arrived at the destined little island, not a little sailor-like, I assure you, with the waves that beat over our dwarfish vessel. On landing I went near the fire to dry myself, and ordered some dinner to be prepared for me in the meantime, for I found that the sea voyage had made me very hungry. In about an hour my dinner was ready, and after eating it, I walked round the island and surveyed in a superficial manner the towns bordering on the Welsh coast. I visited the lighthouse, and made such observations as I could. . . . . At five o'clock in the evening I had some tea, and designed sailing for Weston immediately after, when . . . . . the boatman came and told me that he would not go on shore that night on any consideration, for the sea was tremendously rough. On hearing this I went out to see, for I did not feel reconciled to remain all night. . . . . After seeing for myself that the weather was hazy, the horizon black, and the sea rough, and asking some pilots who were in the house their opinion as to the safety of undertaking the voyage back, I



was fully confirmed that it would have been dangerous to attempt, therefore was unavoidably obliged to stay all night. When the woman of the house found this, she requested me to go with her to see some bedrooms. . . . . On entering the chambers I was not a little surprised to find they were so good . . . . . There was a neatness about them which one would scarcely expect to find on an almost uninhabited island. After making a hearty supper of bread and milk I went to bed, and slept very soundly until early in the morning, when the thundering knock of the boatman roused me. . . . . As the boat was not quite ready, I thought I would walk again about the island.

‘The morning was beautifully serene, and seemingly I was but within a mile or two of Cardiff and many other small towns and villages on the Welsh coast. Everything around me looked quite enchanting, and I was enamoured with the island and its surrounding scenery. On returning to the house I asked the woman what she would charge me for board and lodgings for a week, the lodgings consisting of a good bedroom, with leave to eat whatever the island would afford. To this, after a little hesitation, she replied, “Twenty-five shillings, sir.” I would not give her a positive answer, but said that ’twas not improbable that I might come and live amongst them for a week, but I could not say to a certainty till I had been again at Weston. On my being landed a second time on “terra firma,” I bent my steps towards my old lodgings, which I had taken for a week, and which time had now expired.

‘Immediately on entering, the woman told me “that not knowing whether I wished to take them or not for another week, she had had an application and therefore parted with them.” Of course I could not blame her, for I had previously intimated the probability that I should leave on the Monday; indeed, to be candid, I was not sorry, for above all things I wished to spend a few days on that delightful island, the Holm; therefore hastened to the boat, and soon set sail for it, not a little pleased with the anticipation of my week’s employment, which, together with some particulars respecting the island, it is my intention to make you fully acquainted with. Perhaps



before I enter upon a description of this speck in the ocean, you will have no objection for me, by way of introduction, to tell you what made me so solicitous to spend a week or ten days upon it, for I daresay many persons (perhaps you amongst the rest) will think me a strange being for entertaining a wish of so uncommon a nature. Solitude for some individuals has the most alluring charms; therefore is alone a sufficient inducement. Retirement from the world and its busy concerns is certainly to some persons pleasant and desirable; but that without something else would not actuate me to forego the pleasures and profit to be derived from society, and therefore would not induce me to exchange a state of sociability with man, for that in which I can only have communion with rocks, water, and other inanimate substances which an island or unfrequented spot may abound in. To renovate my impaired health has been the *primum omnium* of my late designs; consequently to promote it certainly demanded my greatest attention. During the time that I was at Weston I undoubtedly much improved, but I found myself better in one day on the Holms than I did during all the time that I was at Weston. This was a very strong motive, you will say; and with me, I assure you, it was so; but what contributed to strengthen it, was the uninterrupted hours I should have for the completion of a particular study; and added to these, the opportunity that I should have of fulfilling my intention of making a sketch of the island, and of collecting such facts as pertained to its history. The second day which I spent on the island, I employed myself in exploring every part of it. This I found not very easy, for, in consequence of rugged rocks which in many parts were my only footpath, it was very difficult as well as dangerous to go forward . . . . . On the third day I went around again for the purpose of noting peculiarities on the island. These I found not very numerous, but of such as were striking on my return I asked the person of the house were they designated by any particular names, when he was so kind as to offer to go and show me what rocks and points were named, and what were not. . . . . After receiv-



ing this piece of necessary information I delineated a rough sketch of the island.

‘ On the fourth day I got to the summit of the lighthouse, and overlooked the little island. From this point it appeared nearly circular, but on further examination I discovered that it was not so, being longer from north-west to south-south-east than in any other part . . . . . After finding out the directions of the different points, rocks and remarkable eminences by means of a mariners’ compass which I borrowed, I set about and finished my map of the island very speedily, and I hope with but few, if any mistakes; at any rate, if it is not free from them in trivial points, I am certain that it is in the more essential ones. . . . . With respect to the ancient history of this little island I could not obtain much information, but it appeared from what I did collect, that there at one time stood a monastery upon it, but how long since, my acquaintance with its history will not enable me to tell you.

‘ Within the distance of about thirty miles, there are the remains of no less than five priories. Upon this island there is a piece of ground enclosed, consisting of about three acres of land, which is now a hayfield: in this enclosure and very near each other, are two tombs, bearing no inscription, but at the head and foot of each there is a crucifix, which is now from lapse of time very nearly obliterated.

‘ Many years since one of these tombs was opened, and found to contain the skeleton of a very tall man; but on handling, and endeavouring to remove it, many of the bones crumbled into very small powder. The skull, however, was preserved perfect, but in whose possession it now is the person on the island could not inform me. The corpse, when buried, was not deposited in a coffin, but flat stones were so placed as to resemble in some measure the form of one. The other tomb was left unopened, in which state it has remained to the present period; but I very much wonder that further curiosity does not incite the owner of the island to open it. About two or three years since, when the present occupier was employed in



digging a foundation for some outbuildings, not more than three or four feet under the surface he discovered several human bones. Frequently since, other persons have accidentally dug and found more. From these and other contingent circumstances, many are induced to believe that the piece of ground was enclosed for a burying-place, but this must be quite conjectural; indeed, I think myself that it is highly improbable that so much ground was appropriated to such a purpose; and I also am of opinion, from the condition of the wall that encloses it, that it must have been built very recently—what I mean by this is, perhaps within the last fifteen or twenty years; but as I am not much of an antiquarian, it is almost unwarrantable for me to advance an opinion. So much, then, for the ancient history. Of the modern I hope to make a better and more certain hand; otherwise, I should not much like to attempt it. It is about seventy years since the lighthouse was erected; the building of a dwelling-house preceded that some years, but with the precise time I am not acquainted. The first occupier of it was an old man, who lived on it a number of years to look to the management of the light. After him another old man, by name Biss, lived in it nearly as long as his predecessor. This person was succeeded by the father-in-law of the present, who lived there twelve years. After him a man remained there nine years, and his successor, the person who now lives there, has had it for the past eleven years. This is the order of occupiers from the time it was built to the present period. The proprietor of the island is named Dickinson. He is one of the members for the county of Somerset, a gentleman of very large fortune, and resides at his seat near Glastonbury. Perhaps you were not aware of its being private property; neither was I, but it appears that it is so, and proves to be a very lucrative concern; for every vessel passing, of whatever burthen, pays three-halfpence per ton for lighting. You must know this is not paid to the man who lives on the Holms, but to an agent in the Custom-house, Bristol, who is authorised to receive it. The person stationed there is



not allowed salary, or any sum of money, but is remunerated by a gift of the dwelling-house and land, which he may apply to whatsoever purpose he pleases. The whole of this, however, is not clear; for out of it he must lodge and maintain two men, who are absolutely necessary to attend to the light; and beside this, he must give to each of them the fixed sum of fifteen pounds per annum, which you will say is not more than adequate compensation for the disturbed repose that their situation exposes them to. The inhabitants of this island are blessed with an advantage which few persons in Great Britain enjoy, namely, a *total exemption* from all rates and taxes . . . . . Let me now describe the situation and extent. The situation of this island is about north-west from Weston-super-Mare, from which it is distant nearly twelve miles; from Uphill, the small village, which I have before given you a slight description of, it is situated about north-north-east, and is distant fully fourteen miles; from the Steep Holms, which is a very rocky uninhabited island—insomuch that there is but one way by which we can possibly reach its summit—it is situated nearly north, and apart little more than three miles. . . . .

‘ With respect to the extent of this island, I have no doubt that you will be astonished when I tell you that it is fully three miles in circumference when the sea is out; at high water it is supposed to be not more than two miles or two miles and a quarter, such a difference does the tide occasion to this little isle. It is calculated to consist of more than fifty acres of land, out of which between thirty and forty acres are in a higher or lower state of cultivation. . . . . The lighthouse stands nearly at the southern extremity, and on by far the most elevated piece of ground on the island, which, of course, is highly necessary, so that it may be seen at the greatest possible distance. It is surrounded by a high wall, which forms a yard for keeping coal, iron, and other things that may be required at any time for repairs, which, though seldom, are occasionally wanted. The lighthouse stands within, and I can compare it to nothing better than a church tower,



being circular, though not tapering to so small a point as that of Truro. Its height is seventy-two feet, and we mount 128 stairs in a winding manner before we arrive at the top, which is quite flat and about twenty-five or thirty feet in circumference. Around are cast-iron rails, in the centre of which is a grate six feet high and about ten feet round, with bars of the thickness of four inches; in this there is constantly a fire, but during the daytime there is little or no appearance of any. The quantity of coal consumed is very considerable, on the average, I am told, fifteen bushels a night; sometimes, when the weather is very boisterous, twenty-five bushels are burnt, and less would not possibly do. . . . . Before I leave this part of my subject, perhaps it will not be uninteresting to tell you, that just without the yard-wall of the lighthouse there is a heap of cinders, which was set on fire about two months before Christmas, by some mischievous boys, and has continued burning to the present time and is likely to remain so. The next place on which I shall make a few remarks is the beach, where the rocks, named by the islanders Castle Rocks, and also the Crane and the small house, stand. This (known by the name of "East Beach") is worthy of particular attention, as it is the principal landing place of the island. The pebbles here are variously painted: some are green with yellowish lines and spots in them; others are of bluish grey, yellow, slate-colour, black, red; and others again are of a bright crimson and chocolate colour. . . . . Off this beach, particularly at this season of the year, as the Jamaica fleet is daily, indeed hourly expected, there may be seen, at almost any hour, yawls and skiffs in large numbers. These belong to pilots who are constantly on the look-out for vessels. Such a safeguard (as the Bristol Channel is rather intricate) is generally necessary, and few ships will run the risk of getting up without one. . . . . Coal Beach is a landing place where pilots sometimes put in, but as the other is so far preferable, this, unless in case of necessity, is nearly deserted. Here also, in the winter, there is fine fishing. "Jackdaw Point" is a rock which hangs over the beach, and is rather below the level of the island; the origin of



the name I cannot tell you. "South-west-point" and "North-west-point" are in form somewhat similar, but in size more considerable. There is one particular more that I shall mention before I finish this part of my subject; it is that of "Buddel's Well," which affords matter as interesting to the philosopher as to the historian. This well is of an uncommon depth, indeed far deeper than wells usually are. . . . . The water is excellent, but, what is singular, its quantity (not its quality) is influenced by the tide in a remarkable manner. When the sea is out, water may be had in abundance, but when it is in, the well is quite dry. Is not this unaccountably strange? And what renders it still more so is, that there are two wells on the island, but it is only the former that is thus affected; in the latter, water may be had at all seasons. As you are wiser than I am, I should much like you to explain this phenomenon. From a description of the island itself I will endeavour to give you some idea of its productions, which I must first intimate are very scanty. On the rocks may be found limpets in profusion, indeed enough to maintain the present inhabitants for several weeks. Crabs may be caught, but they are so small as not to be fit to eat. Periwinkles are abundant. Sprats may be caught, but not soles or flounders, nor any other flat fish, as there is no mud about the island for them to feed in. The birds that frequent the island are burrowducks (which are not unlike our tame ducks, only larger), gulls, ravens (which are sad enemies to the rabbits), hawks, and a few other smaller kinds. The quadrupeds on the island are seven cows, two bulls, five sheep, one horse, three calves, two pigs, two dogs, one cat, rats and rabbits in large numbers, which, with a net, you may take at pleasure. . . . .

'Some persons indulge a most singular notion that a residence on such a rude place as the Holms, for any length of time, would be extremely tiresome; that time would fly on very tardy wings, and that the individual so circumstanced would acquire a difference of visage, disposition, and manners, which would be far from improving him. To dispute that these changes cannot take place



would be unjustifiable, but certainly I conceive that they may, or may not be effected according to the predisposition of the person on whom the experiment may be made. If naturally prone to barbarity, surely placing him in this situation would be a very likely method of nourishing and promoting its increase; so also, if a person can only find employment in a certain routine, then I think such a place as this is must be most odious; but if an individual be by education moderately refined, without any propensity for barbarism, and if from this cause he can adapt his amusements to this sphere of action, and derive instruction from them, then I think he may spend his time as agreeably, if not more profitably, in this situation than in many others; indeed, the only thing I regretted was my not having a friend to participate in my enjoyments. There are some individuals also who suppose from a distant view of this island, and the curious stories of dreariness which are told of it, that it is a most execrable place, and instead of being a land of plenty, a land of want. If such were to ask me, I would tell them what I have told you, but in addition would say, that I should much, very much like to exchange for two months in the year, the turbulent, unwholesome manufacturing town or city, for the retired delightful little island on which I spent a week so pleasantly that I shall never forget it.'—June 28th, 1815.

Mr. Turner left Bristol for London in the autumn of 1815, and entered as a student under Mr. (afterwards Sir Astley) Cooper, at the united Hospitals of Guy's and St. Thomas'. Of Sir Astley Cooper's eminence as a surgeon, Mr. Turner entertained the most exalted opinion, and also of his character as a friend of the students, and these feelings of attachment were much strengthened by a kindly visit which Sir Astley made to Mr. Turner in Manchester many years after he had settled in practice there. From the commencement of his career in London, Mr. Turner felt himself in a new field and an extended sphere of professional labour, and applied himself with diligence to the work set before him. He passed the



Royal College of Surgeons, and Apothecaries' Hall in 1816. No diary was kept by him during his residence in either Bristol or London, but beside many other closely written volumes, a folio one containing notes of Sir Astley Cooper's and Mr. Cline's lectures still remains as a monument of his painstaking industry.<sup>1</sup>

Having completed his student career in London, Mr. Turner went to Paris in the summer of 1816, taking with him an introduction from Sir Astley Cooper to Professor Roue, and attended the Hôtel Dieu, L'Hôpital de Charité, L'École de Médecin, &c. His residence in Paris during part of the summer session of 1816 and the whole of the winter and spring sessions following, was very profitable to him in a professional point of view, and he gained a pretty fair knowledge of the French language from a resolution which he made on reaching Paris not to associate more than was absolutely necessary with English people, feeling this was the only way in which to acquire for practical purposes a knowledge of the language. He became acquainted with most of the eminent men who flourished in the Parisian schools at that time. But physiology and surgery being subjects upon which he was especially engaged, drew him directly to the instruction and society of Champier, Richerand, Dupuytren, and Larry. Boyer, of La Charité, was still alive, but very old and infirm, though not past work. Mr. Turner also knew, and attended the instruction of, the aged Portal, one of the most eminent anatomists and physiologists in France. He continued his lectures and labours until his voice could scarcely be heard by the class, and at his last lecture at the college of France he broke down and another professor took his place. At this time Portal must have been nearly ninety years of age. During his residence in Paris Mr. Turner devoted certain days and seasons to visiting the hospitals, institutions, and places of historical note in the neighbourhood, and upon one occasion he extended his pedestrian excursion alone, to Port Royal de Champs,

<sup>1</sup> This volume is about an inch and a half in thickness, and filled throughout with the closest manuscript.



the Pascal Well, &c. He became a member of several medical societies during his student life in Paris, and it appears that a very able paper upon Medical Education, which was written by him in the year 1817, was prepared to be read at some meeting of one of these societies. Many of his friendships at this time were with students who afterwards attained very high standing in the profession, but most of whom have passed away. His intention was to have taken out a medical degree in Paris, and he would have done so, having settled all preliminaries with the college, had he not been summoned to England by circumstances which will be fully narrated by and by. Mr. Turner kept a very interesting diary of places visited by him during his stay in Paris, extracts from which will be laid before the reader in the next chapter. As upon a former occasion, it will be seen that this diary was especially designed for his father's perusal.



## CHAPTER III.

## JOURNEY FROM LONDON TO PARIS.

‘*August 15, 1816.*—When a person sets out on an excursion, particularly if it be to a foreign country, and desires to ensure to himself the greatest possible degree of pleasure, he must make up his mind to face petty disappointments with a smile; and more formidable ones, or such as at home would excite his chagrin and displeasure, he must trample under foot, with the unconcern and philosophy which become him. No one can expect to travel far without being arrested by something unpleasant. Before commencing his journey he should endeavour, therefore, to shield his mind so completely as not to let anything disturb it that would tend to lessen the pleasure and profit of his excursion. In travelling we have a bird’s-eye view of the men and manners of the world. If, then, we can reconcile ourselves to the varied nature of occurrences at this time, we may consider ourselves as qualified to move in a sphere more extensive, and, perhaps, a sphere such as in future life we may be called upon to occupy. Having left London under the impressions these unfold to you, I will add that so far from having met with anything to cross my temper hitherto, everything has moved on smoothly, save a few detentions, which from time to time have unavoidably occurred. Having premised thus much, however, an embargo is most effectually placed upon any future complainings. Therefore, should anything occur, there will be more policy in keeping it concealed than in subjecting myself to become the laughing-stock of my friends. Theory is very different from practice. The foundation of my resolve is the former. Therefore do not be surprised at its



being overthrown, should that decisive test, experience, exert its power too unmercifully.

‘I am thus far on my journey towards the French metropolis, which you have been so indulgent as to permit me to visit. In return for this favour there is but one thing I can offer as compensation, which is an account of what may be presented to my notice during the tour; and with this I will communicate such crude observations as may suggest themselves during my peregrinations. More than this I am sure my father will not require, since he is neither selfish, nor does he sanction the undertakings of his children with any other object save that of their individual benefit. To accomplish this design the more effectually, I will proceed in regular order, hoping that what account I may transmit of those manners and customs will afford you an hour’s amusement when you are pensively inclined, from lack of company or employment.

‘I left London on Thursday, but was apprehensive I should not be able to do so, on account of the difficulties there were in obtaining a passport. On calling at the passport-office on Tuesday, I found that, according to the routine of business transacted there, it was necessary that the name should be registered on one day and the passport be called for on the following. This, indeed, is required by Act of Parliament, perhaps in order to prevent the too hasty escape of suspicious characters from this country. This would be more practicable did the regulation referred to not exist. It is said that at this office police-officers are in constant waiting, in order to take into custody such persons as they have been in search of, or to prevent men of bad character from going upon the Continent; or, perhaps, to recognise them the more readily should they commit a crime for which it was necessary to apprehend them. From their presence, however, I had nothing to fear, and hope I never shall. Just to give you an idea of the number of persons who visit the Continent, it is only necessary for me to tell you the number of passports granted on the average, daily. This is said to be from 250 to 300. The number of my own passport was 206. No doubt you will feel amazed. I was long in



waiting, and on leaving, the room was nearly filled with persons who had subsequently arrived with an object similar to my own.

*Thursday, August 15, 1816.*—At three o'clock in the afternoon we left London, very heavily laden. The coach was one started in opposition to another that had been on the road for some time, and notwithstanding the driver was the proprietor, it was strange at what speed he kept his horses, quite unmindful of their knees or of the passengers' necks. The rapidity was such as carried us ten miles an hour. I am no advocate for the Bill which has lately been attempted to be brought into Parliament to inflict corporeal punishment on daring coachmen, but I certainly should like to see something done that would tend to make them more cautious, and thereby lessen the frequency of the accidents consequent on their rashly persisting in a practice pregnant with the greatest danger. In going from London to Brighton the country looked fine, and notwithstanding the heavy rain we have had, the corn in most places remains firm and uninjured. I believe myself that the general apprehension of the corn being materially hurt by the long continued wet is quite erroneous. . . . . In these counties (Surrey and Sussex) there are neither towns nor places of much consequence, saving Brighton. . . . . At nine o'clock in the evening<sup>1</sup> we arrived at Brighton. The town was rather full of company in consequence of the races being then in hand, but I had not much difficulty in procuring a bed at the Ship Inn. Of course I was made to pay extraordinarily dear for my board and lodgings. From this town being the annual resort of some of the branches of the Royal family, every one would suppose it to possess peculiar attractions. In regard to situation, it is, indeed, extremely pleasant, being very near the sea. The town itself is much larger than watering-places in general, and notwithstanding that the building of houses in most places is a bad speculation, here the rage for it is very great, and by and by I have no doubt that Brighton will be a very considerable place. The amusements are similar to those

<sup>1</sup> Six hours' journey!



met with at most other much frequented watering places. The libraries are good buildings, and the most considerable contains a very large collection of books, numbering many thousand volumes. Here the London daily papers are taken in to amuse the visitors during the day, while in the evening there is a sort of lottery for prizes of from five shillings to twenty shillings, the winners being required to take out the amount of their prizes in such articles as are there exposed for sale. In this way many of the invalids spend their evenings—how profitably or instructively I will leave you to judge; but no doubt time often hangs so heavily as to render any amusement tolerable. The principal promenade for the fashionables is situated in the centre of the town, very near the Pavilion; it is called the Steyne, and consists of a square having grass in the centre, intersected with walks. Around are some elegant shops, together with a grand bazaar, for this whimsical novelty has even reached Brighton, and the inhabitants seem to pride themselves on it; for on asking what objects in the town were worth a stranger's seeing, this was mentioned among the rest, my informant little thinking that I had been for some time in the metropolis, where the rage for bazaars has of late almost amounted to mania. The Pavilion belongs to the Royal family; it is a building of the Chinese order, and seems intended more for ornament than durability. In the centre is a large dome composed chiefly of glass.'

*Incidents upon the Voyage across the Channel.*—'That it is often through the medium of misfortune that we become informed of circumstances pleasing to be known has now and then been verified, and here I have an example, for had not sickness visited me during the voyage, in all probability I should have lost sight of a phenomenon which I now pride myself upon having witnessed. No doubt you have often read or heard of a luminous appearance which the sea now and then presents to the mariner and to persons whose curiosity has induced them to observe it. I have often read accounts of this phenomenon in periodical publications, which give different explanations of it. Some writers have attributed it to small fish



endued with a phosphorescent property; others to electricity, but both of these have had their doubt as to its real nature. Far be it from me to attempt to define what philosophers have failed to account for satisfactorily, but analogy would induce me to suppose it to be of an electrical nature, for the appearance is exactly like that produced by the presence of innumerable electric sparks arising as it were out of the sea, and almost as instantly disappearing; they are confined to the track made by the vessel.

*Dieppe, August 18.*—This morning we arrived in the harbour of Dieppe. On entering the harbour, which is a very safe and convenient one, we observed the quay crowded, notwithstanding it was only six o'clock, with gazing French men and women; the men were chiefly sailors, and two boats manned with them came out to render what assistance we might require, and to demand our passports. Having given these into the hands of the officer, we were permitted to go upon shore, but all luggage was withheld till it should have been sent to the Custom House. The officers were very civil and obliging, but scrupulously ceremonious as to the due discharge of their duties. With regard to the French in general, on the whole their civility is extreme, and their external deportment would indicate the most friendly hearts. I have no hesitation in saying myself that the reports of the incivility which Englishmen meet with is entirely attributable to their own improper conduct. The people of France are obliging by nature, and I believe it is often painful to them to be otherwise. The population of Dieppe is estimated at 20,000, from which you may judge, in some measure, of the size of the town, which, though still large, is not so extensive as formerly, for in the year 1694 it was bombarded by an English squadron, under the orders of Commander Benbow, the result being that the greater portion was burnt down. There are daily arrivals at this port of persons from England, some of high rank and fortune. This morning arrived Sir Walter Scott and his niece.

*The French Diligence.*—The diligences are clumsy,



heavy-looking machines, seemingly ready to fall to pieces ; and as they are all alike, all at least that I have seen, I will describe them in the singular number. A diligence is not unlike the coach which used to run from Falmouth to Truro many years since, but infinitely more clumsy and heavy ; there are four wheels, but the construction is different from that of the wheels employed in England. Instead of a seat in front for the driver, as in England, there is a place with a leathern back and sides, and a comfortable seat that will hold three persons very conveniently, and there they sit as if in a gig ; this part is called *le cabriolet de la diligence* ; the driver, or guide, as he is called in France, rides one of the hinder horses, and with a long whip, which he manages with great dexterity, he is almost constantly whipping the animals. The inside of the vehicle will comfortably accommodate four persons, but endeavour is often made to squeeze in a larger number ; three or four more ride upon the roof, in company with huge packages, which seem to threaten destruction to all beneath. The horses are very small, but stout and strong, and as they are changed very frequently the guide shows them but little mercy. Speed is not wanted, for, from the manner in which the vehicle is loaded, if the horses can draw it three and a half or four miles an hour, it may be considered good travelling and hard work. The harness of the horses is most laughable : we see no finery, no brass plate, but instead of this there are tapes and rusty iron, such as we meet with in the plough-fields of England now and then ; occasionally there is a little ornament effected with worsted, or there is a sheep's-skin on the horses' back or neck, but nothing beyond this. From Dieppe to Rouen you are on the road from six and a half to seven hours ; the fare for this journey is eight francs, and a franc and a half is given to the guide besides.

*Rouen Cathedral, August 24.*—I visited the cathedral, which is indeed a most magnificent building, larger than any cathedral I ever before saw, not excepting St. Paul's. The style of architecture is that of the Anglo-Normans ; the structure itself was raised by William the Conqueror. The entrance to the cathedral is by three large doors, the



central one the largest. This is only opened on particular occasions, but the other doors are open daily, from morning until a very late hour in the evening. When I entered service had begun. The altar was very beautiful. Instead of a painting of the Virgin Mary, such as is commonly seen in Roman Catholic chapels, there was a beautiful white marble statue of the same, holding in the arms an infant, which she was pressing to her bosom. She stands upon a marble pedestal, which has a brass plate in the centre, bearing a representation in bas-relief of our Saviour upon the Cross. This statue of the mother of Christ stood just under a gallery composed of solid marble, inlaid and ornamented with gold and brass. This gallery is supported by eight fluted marble pillars of the Ionic order, which give to it an appearance of grandeur not easily described. Against the gallery is a marble statue of our Saviour nailed to a cross, the representation as large as life. When service was over I walked about the building, in order to inspect more closely the various objects which attracted my attention at a distance. In various parts I observed candles burning. These appeared to be near the tombs of distinguished personages. On drawing nearer I found this to be actually the case. One worthy of particular notice was the tomb of a female. There were no fewer than twenty candles burning, and in order to keep up the illumination (for so I may call it) there sat a woman by with a large basket of candles. Now and then, as occasion required, she renewed the lights. I will not attempt to describe the elegance of the tomb or the various devices surrounding it. Suffice it to say it was very impressive; and what rendered it more imposing was the approach of persons who went there in order to kneel and engage in prayer for some time, after which they retired, but not without depositing a sou in the hand of the woman who was seated alongside. This money, perhaps, was considered her perquisite for the trouble of maintaining the light. At one time I attempted to draw near to the tomb whilst a female of about twenty years of age was before it upon her knees. The old woman came forward and begged me to desist, intimating that I



might interrupt her devotions. As regards this, however, her fears were groundless, for I certainly should have avoided doing so. Over the tomb were the figures of two angels, holding in their hands a large piece of black marble, which was encircled by a wreath of laurel. In different parts of the building are most beautiful paintings, the designs taken from Scripture; and the finely painted glass gave to the whole an appearance very striking. But the very massive pillars prevented its being so effective as it otherwise might have been, for the whole of the interior of the cathedral could not be seen at one view. In order to see all, the visitor must go into the three aisles separately, for only one of them can be viewed to advantage at the same moment. After walking about for a short time I left. On visiting the public edifices in France we meet with no intruding fellow who endeavours to impose himself upon you with his apparent civility, for which he expects you to reward him handsomely. No! There free access may be obtained to all public buildings, and your guide is civil and obliging without the prospect of reward. Indeed, to give is not expected. All that is necessary, therefore, is to provide oneself with a few sous in order to bestow them upon paupers who may beg for charity at the door.'



## CHAPTER IV.

PARIS—THE PALAIS ROYAL—THE CATACOMBS—THE LOUVRE, ETC.

*Approach to Paris.*—‘Our approach to the capital was known by the neatness with which the roads were paved, by their greater width, and by numerous lofty elms. Together with these I may mention the number of vehicles and of young men on horseback by whom we were met, for, being Sunday, the Parisians were disposed to enjoy themselves.

‘The country through which we passed all the way from Dieppe to Paris is very fine.

‘St. Germain is a large place, rendered interesting from the fact of its having been for a long time the summer residence of the kings of France, who here engaged in the sport of hunting in the forest, which is of considerable extent. Here James II. found an asylum when he fled to France, and here he died worn out with grief in the year 1700. Between St. Germain and Paris, on the right hand side of the road, the guide pointed out the château called Malmaison, a house which was long the residence of Bonaparte, and afterwards became Josephine’s. The garden seemed to be laid out quite in the English style. We arrived at Paris about one o’clock on Sunday, September 1, and took up our quarters at the Hôtel de la Paix, in the Rue de la Paix, a small but neat house. The entrance to Paris from St. Germain is considered the grandest. You arrive at the top of a hill, and just at the foot of another stands the capital. Here the road is uncommonly wide, and the elm-trees on each side are of an unusual height. We then passed by the gardens of the Tuileries and entered Paris. September 9.—This evening there occurred at the Théâtre Français a most curious



circumstance. Whilst a Mdlle. Regnier was upon the stage performing in the play of the "Mariage de Figaro," a great hissing was heard to proceed from one part of the pit. The audience approving of the lady's performance, ordered the hisser to desist, but in vain. The offender was taken into custody, and was discovered on investigation to be a female in man's apparel and an actress belonging to the same theatre. On the following day this lady sent in her resignation, which was accepted.

'*The Palais Royal.*—One of the principal curiosities in Paris is the Palais Royal, a place which abounds with scenes of the most astonishing nature, and such as I had no previous conception of. The building forms a large square, enclosing a garden ornamented with the most beautiful trees, orange-trees predominating. In the centre is a pond with a fountain, which plays on holidays. Round about are gravel walks, which from sunrise to midnight are crowded with promenaders. At the upper extremity is an orchestra, and at the lower one a double piazza, with two rows of shops; there are also plenty of chairs, which in the evening are mostly occupied. In order to see the Palais Royal to advantage we must visit it in the evening, when the shopkeepers have lighted up their cabinets. Then, from the vast numbers of the company, the diversity of scenes, and the general splendour of the whole place, it becomes a spectacle of singular interest. To increase the general cheerfulness there are many varieties of music, which sometimes strike on the ear so suddenly as to make one start, and look round with a view to learning whence it proceeds. To your astonishment you stoop and find that the sound issues from a cellar; you are induced to enter, but on doing so instead of a cellar you find a splendid coffee-room, lined with mirrors, and crowded with ladies and gentlemen who resort hither to take their coffee or lemonade, of which, with the addition of a biscuit, the Parisians generally make their supper. Most of the cafés are below the level of the gardens, and each has its own particular name, as, for example, the Café de Sauvages, the Café des Aveugles. The first receives its name from having to entertain men dressed as savages, and who per-



form antics which, though truly ridiculous, are almost sustenance to a Frenchman. It is astounding how well-pleased they seem with this nonsense, and notwithstanding the sameness of the amusements it would appear that their readiness for being pleased is never tired; it would appear moreover that the more absurd and frivolous the spectacle, so much more certain it is to obtain admirers. The *Café des Aveugles* is so called from all the persons in the orchestra being blind. Here we have more rational entertainments, among which I have often heard very good singing. In the row above the *cafés* all round the square are shops and restaurants. Here may be procured anything that either body or mind can desire; every species of wearing apparel, ornaments of every description, and eatables calculated for any and every taste; for the mind there are extensive libraries and reading-rooms, access to which may be obtained without difficulty. The *Palais Royal*, in a word, can boast of the possession of everything save members of the three professions. The natural atmosphere of these, the air in which they best succeed, is removed from scenes of such gaiety as the *Palais Royal*. Such an atmosphere would be uncongenial with the distemper that would induce a person to crave assistance from any one of them. The divine needs the silent chamber, the client requires the cabinet, and the sick person his bed. . . . In the course of the evening I visited a large and brilliantly lighted room, densely crowded, and in the centre of which was a large square table. Around it were sitting numbers of miserable wretches who evidently confided in the traffic for which it was provided; on their countenances were depicted all possible emotions; some showed distraction, others were elated, others again seemed indifferent, rendered no doubt callous by long experience of the variable fortunes of the table. Everyone who was seated held in his hand a sort of wooden spoon, in which he placed his stakes; for now I discovered this to be a gambling-table, and with the same instrument he drew his adversary's counters towards himself, if he proved successful. These houses of vice are sanctioned by Government, to which they pay a considerable sum of money, and



they are under its immediate inspection. They are said to be well-regulated; officers are always present to preserve order, and referees for the decision of disputes. After seeing as much as I could I departed from a place which nothing but natural curiosity would have induced me to enter, and which I resolved never again to visit, and trust that I learned a lesson such as will enable me for ever to avoid an amusement, success in which is dishonourable, and where loss leads to almost inevitable ruin.

*The Catacombs, January 17, 1817.*—This day I visited the Catacombs, which are situated in the quarries on the left-hand side of the road leading to Orleans. By three o'clock, the hour for opening, the party of intending visitors had become increased to twenty-five, two-thirds of whom were English. Everyone was provided with a wax taper, procured from boys standing at the entrance. The descent into the Catacombs is by means of a winding staircase, which leads to a depth of eighty or ninety feet below the surface of the ground. For a quarter of an hour we pursue our way through frightful subterranean passages, the sides and roof of which are formed of huge masses of rock, seeming to threaten destruction to us as we walked beneath them. Our course was determined by a black line traced upon the roof, which was necessary in order to prevent our going wrong; right and left at different distances are numerous excavations, varying in size and extent, and which they say would communicate with one another and render the place of infinite perplexity, had not care been taken to bar the passages, so as to form a distinct enclosure for the purpose to which the Catacombs are appropriated. After continuing our route for some time we entered a passage that was somewhat neater-looking, and where on a piece of board were inscribed the words, "Entrée à les Catacombes." The conductor presently opened a door, upon entering which there was presented a scene which I shall never forget. By the light of our tapers we were enabled to distinguish that on which the door had closed, namely, an immense collection of human bones arranged in the most perfect order. These mournful walls are in front formed by thigh-bones and skulls, the smaller bones



being thrown behind. The whole of them, instead of being white, continue brown, owing to the constant darkness of the place; the number of deceased human beings that they represent is estimated at two millions; and in order that it may be remembered from what burial-places they were removed, the bones are arranged in compartments, above each of which is an inscription. Hither were conveyed all the bones found in the burying-place of the Innocents, with the addition of great quantities found upon the demolition of churches and monasteries. The collection was begun in the year 1786, at which time the quarries were discovered by accident. The originator of the idea of using them as catacombs drew up a plan and presented it to the Government, by whom the suggestion was approved and carried into effect. Little regard was at first paid to arrangement; the persons to whom the work was entrusted were content to heap up the bones just as they came, simply taking care that the produce of the different cemeteries should be laid together; the regular arrangement of them, at present so conspicuous, has been observed for not more than three or four years. In various parts of this dismal chamber inscriptions are to be seen, all suggesting ideas of the most mournful and melancholy description; altars are built in different parts, and in front of all there is a chapel, again with a plentiful supply of Latin mottos. After walking for some time, the conductor showed us a wall, behind which lay the remains of the unfortunates who were assassinated in the prisons during those fearful days September 2nd and 3rd, 1792. At the sight of this everyone felt an emotion of horror. Among the bodies was that of the Princess Lamballe, the unfortunate lady who was massacred merely on account of her being a friend of Marie Antoinette. On the occasion of the murder of this ill-fated woman her head and feet were placed upon pikes and carried in triumph about the city, a truly horrible illustration of the phrenzy which reigned in Paris at the commencement of the Great Revolution. On quitting this portion of the Catacombs we entered a small apartment in which were collected fractured bones and such as were of remarkable



form. Among the crania the guide pointed out the head of an idiot, the forehead in this being almost flat. We now returned in search of the staircase, from which we had travelled a distance of nearly 2,000 feet, the whole of it underground. The return passages were not, however, the same as those by which we had entered, but in appearance were equally horrible. Such, then, are the Catacombs of Paris, and well worthy are they of a visit from every stranger to that metropolis; the scene is one which cannot be witnessed elsewhere, except at Rome. To leave Paris without seeing them is to leave unvisited one of the grandest and most impressive scenes which this capital can supply. I shall preserve the taper which lighted me through their gloomy recesses. It will for ever recal to my recollection a time when my astonishment was at its greatest pitch. From personally visiting this and the other places in Paris which are connected with the Revolutionary epoch, how much more interesting and intelligible will become to me the reports which I shall hereafter read of them!

*Paris.*—Paris does not stand on nearly so much ground as London, neither are the suburbs so extensive, but the difference in population is more disproportionate, owing to the houses being generally loftier, and consequently more fully inhabited, for the Parisians live in a style very similar to the people of Edinburgh; families, that is to say, occupy suites of rooms one above another, thus often making the inhabitants of a single house six stories in height to consist of as many different families. Exclusive of foreigners, the population is estimated at 580,000. It is thus not nearly as great as the British metropolis. Like London, Paris is divided into two portions by a river, the celebrated Seine. Among its many bridges is the Pont de Jena, which Blucher had it in contemplation to blow up, on the occasion of the Allies entering Paris. What military advantage would have been gained by this I do not know, but I am glad the marshal did not carry out his purpose, as the bridge is a fine one. The streets of Paris in general are bad, being narrow and dirty. There are no flags for foot-passengers, who are thus in



constant danger of being ridden over. Woe to white dresses and nankeen trousers in Paris on a wet day, for, on account of the numerous cabriolets and voitures which are constantly passing, it is impossible to escape the filth which these merciless vehicles throw up. The want of flat stones (pavement) is unavoidable in the greater number of the streets, for they are so narrow that such an encroachment would not be possible. The houses are numbered in a manner different from that which prevails in England, and more methodically, the even numbers on the right hand and the odd ones on the left. In the streets which run at right angles with the course of the river all the numbers are painted in black; but in those which run parallel with it they are painted red, a distinction very useful to the stranger. While the streets in general are so filthy, there are squares and places which are pleasant and dry for pedestrians; we may keep clean, for instance, in the Tuileries, in the Palais Royal, in the Place Vendôme, and in some of the boulevards, even after there has been rain for several days. Paris I consider the most busy, the most noisy, and yet at the same time perhaps the most splendid and luxuriant city in the world. There are twenty or thirty playhouses, ten or twelve large halls, and five or six markets. Besides these there are thirty or forty of the finest hotels, and coffee-houses without end.

‘*The Louvre.*—The old Louvre was first inhabited by Charles IX., during whose reign it was the scene of treachery and massacres. The deeds of cruelty there performed, until the merciless reign of Robespierre, are unexampled in the history of France. With change of sovereigns and lapse of time how great has been the change! Now, instead of being the retreat of infamy, it has become a home of the arts and sciences, a school for talent, and an asylum for literature. There is nothing particular in its external appearance, but inside there is everything to please. The new Louvre forms a perfect square; the palace is on the northern side of the river and situated very near it, while in the Place de Louvre stands a triumphal arch, erected by the ambitious Napo-



leon to commemorate battles in which he proved victorious. On the frieze are as many statues as suffice to represent the different kinds of weapons employed by the French soldiers; about it are various bas-reliefs exhibiting the principal actions of the campaign of 1805. In each of these the artist has endeavoured to introduce as much as possible of the real scenery of the battle, and to display striking portraits of the chief characters. The arch was originally crowned by a car, in which at one time stood a statue of the late ambitious ruler of France, but of course that is now removed to some dark corner. The car was drawn by four beautiful horses, which were cast at Corinth, where they were attached to the Chariot of the Sun.

‘*The Tuileries.*—The Palace of the Tuileries is the residence of Louis (XVIII.), and in size and magnificence is certainly superior to the Louvre, yet still there is not so great a difference as between the Louvre and Carlton House, the present residence of the Regent of England. Well did the potentates exclaim when in England, “Your palaces are stables, and your stables are palaces.” Compared with the Tuileries and the Louvre, Carlton House is, in truth, as a cottage to a castle. Nearly in the same ratio as to excellence are all the public buildings which I have seen in Paris. I do not here allude to the convenient arrangements at particular places for particular purposes, but to the superiority of the French in the art of decoration. Of this fact many instances might be adduced. All their public edifices exhibit the highest proofs of refinement and polish, and while attending to this they have not neglected durability.’

After this the diary proceeds to give long and picturesque descriptions of visits to Mont Martre, Versailles, St. Cloud, and the renowned cemetery of Père la Chaise. The notes are interspersed with abundant observations, declaring the earnestness with which Mr. Turner sought to obtain information upon every subject interesting to an amiable and accomplished mind. We see in this diary traces of the early development of the various powers by which he was so prominently distinguished in after-life.



## CHAPTER V.

MR. TURNER RECEIVES AN APPOINTMENT IN MANCHESTER; HOLDS IT UNTIL THE SUMMER OF 1820, AND THEN SETTLES IN PRACTICE.

It has been stated in a previous chapter that, having completed his studies in Paris, Mr. Turner had decided to take out a medical degree there, when unexpectedly summoned to England. His youngest sister, Elizabeth, had been married some years before to Mr. Richard Smith, a gentleman residing in Manchester; and the appointment of house-surgeon to the town's hospital having become vacant by the resignation of the late Mr. Whatton, his brother-in-law and sister were exceedingly anxious that Mr. Turner should become a candidate for the vacant post. The position of house-surgeon to some public institution is always earnestly sought by young men who have just completed their medical studies, on account of the opportunity for gaining experience which it affords; and fully conscious of the advantage which the appointment would secure to him in this way, Mr. Turner responded to the summons of his brother-in-law and applied for the vacancy. The candidates were examined by the late Dr. Henry, who was at that time consulting physician, and Mr. Ainsworth, who was consulting surgeon to the hospital.

Mr. Turner was selected for the appointment, and entered at once upon the duties of his new position.

This was in the year 1817, and from that day forward the warmest personal interest was taken by Dr. Henry and Mr. Ainsworth in the upward career of the young medical man, who through their instrumentality was thus brought as a resident into Manchester. Shortly after his appoint-



ment Mr. Turner addressed the following lines to his kind friend and former instructor, Mr. Duck:—‘It is some months since a letter passed between us, and I think in consequence of my rather expecting to receive one from you. In my last I informed you of the result of the election, and that I was the successful candidate. At that time I was not able to give you a full account of the situation, for I myself was acquainted with it only from hearsay. Having now filled it for nearly five months, of course you will think me capable of entering upon minutiae. To do so would perhaps be tedious to you, but to give you some particulars will, I expect, be pleasing, knowing the kind interest which you take in my success. To commence: The situation, I assure you, exceeds in eligibility my most sanguine expectations. It is one exceedingly desirable for a young man prior to his entering upon private practice, for, as you know, the advantages of a public hospital are very great. The number of sick persons assembled under one roof affords opportunity for comparison, and this must be obtained as the grand source of real practical knowledge. At this time I have on my list seventy-four patients, medical and surgical, independent of lunatics; beside these there are about twenty, on the average, who come to the house daily for advice. There are also home-patients (by this I mean persons visited at their own homes), from twenty to thirty. I have them all under my own care, by which, as you may suppose, I am kept constantly employed; but by systematising my work I can get through with it with satisfaction and comfort, and generally have the evenings to myself. The consulting physician and surgeon are exceedingly kind, never refusing to attend when requested, by which I obtain that knowledge and assistance which now and then I wish for in certain cases. Since coming here I have met with some very interesting cases, and such as would, I think, afford us ground for conversation if we were together.’

The details of a case which was somewhat remarkable, and which had deeply engaged Mr. Turner’s attention, are then given, and he concludes by naming that the daughter of the governor of the hospital was in bad health, and



about to visit the neighbourhood of Bristol, in order to have the benefit of the Clifton hot baths, and Mr. Duck's kindly interest in her case is requested (as she would be entirely among strangers), should she find it needful to apply to him professionally.

This conclusion is characteristic, for throughout Mr. Turner's entire life, and when the pressure of his engagements was such that his work could often only be compassed by his professional writing being protracted far into the early morning, he had always time for acts of kindness and letters of sympathy. More than forty years after this date a poor woman in whom Mr. Turner's daughters were interested met with a severe accident, and having been brought into this hospital, sent an earnest request to them to visit her, in compliance with which they went. A long succession of visits followed, and in one of these Mr. Turner's youngest daughter met with an aged woman who had been a nurse in the hospital at the time of which we are now writing, and who graphically narrated the following incident, showing the moral courage and fearless devotion to his profession which was evinced by Mr. Turner in this early period of his career:—A terrible fever case had been brought into the hospital, one apparently of a very unusual and malignant type. The nurse designated it 'spotted fever,' and a feeling of panic in reference to it appears to have more or less spread through the hospital. Knowing the influence of fear in predisposing to infection, Mr. Turner isolated the case, and (making proper provision for the care of his other patients) determined himself to undertake the care of the sufferer night and day, administering alike food and medicine, so that no other person should be exposed to the infection. All his efforts were, however, unavailing, and the poor man died, when Mr. Turner with his own hands placed the body in its coffin. Many strongly censured the risk which he had thus run, but the end which he had sought was accomplished.

The contagion did not spread; all panic subsided; and the impression which this act of self-sacrificing devotion made upon the inmates of the hospital may be gathered from the fact, that more than forty years after



its occurrence it should have so lived in the memory of the aged woman by whom it was narrated. Miss Turner had never heard her father allude to the circumstance, but mentioning it to him upon her return home, found that a perfectly accurate statement had been made to her.

Mr. Turner retained his appointment as house-surgeon to the town's hospital until the year 1820, a severe attack of illness, which lasted about three months, alone interfering with the steady performance of his professional duties, during part of which interval his place was supplied at the hospital by his kind and valued friend Mr. Lallemand, who survives him, and is still in practice in Macclesfield. (January 1875.)

Immediately after resigning his post at the hospital, and before settling in practice, Mr. Turner took a tour, embracing visits to the Isle of Man, Scotland, and London; and a few extracts from the latter part of the diary kept by him during this time may prove interesting to the reader. After visiting the beautiful lake scenery of Scotland he went from Dumbarton to Glasgow, and there writes:—

‘*September 12, Tuesday.*—Visited the Infirmary, High Church College, Hunterian Museum, Sir John Moore's monument, Lord Nelson's, the Tolbooth Green, Carlton Place, &c.

‘*September 13, Wednesday.*—Saw Mr. Barbour at ten o'clock; went to the Barracks and Observatory, at which place is a solar microscope one million power; it is commonly used at 32,000 only; a telescope 1,200 power, another at 1,000. Camera-obscura thirty-two times magnified. Went from the Observatory to the Lunatic Asylum, Infirmary, Institution for Deaf and Dumb, lately instituted—Mr. Anderson, manager.

‘Visited the dairy; 160 cows; churn with a steam-engine. Dined at Mr. Barbour's.

‘*September 14, Thursday.*—Took a place to Lanark. Visited the falls of the Clyde, and spent an hour or more at Mr. Owen's mills; employed here upwards of 1,800 persons. Pleasing to see how happy and comfortable the children seem. . . . All the machinery worked by



water of the Clyde. Went on to Edinburgh; arrived at 2 o'clock P.M.

'Thirty-two miles from Lanark; bleak and uncultivated country. Put up at the "Star," a very comfortable inn.

'Called upon Mr. Macdonald at the Infirmary. . . . Found a letter from Bess (his sister). From the windows of the "Star" see very many houses seven and eight stories high, two of eleven stories, and am informed that there are some even of fourteen.

'There is a view also of Arthur's Seat, the Castle, and many public buildings.

'The Register Office, which is in this street (Princes Street), is a very fine building; the College, if finished, would be a striking piece of architecture.

'*September 15.*—Went to the Calton Hill, which commands a panoramic view of the city. On this hill are the Observatory and a monument to the memory of Nelson. . . . From the Observatory went to Holyrood. . . . Visited Arthur's Seat; called on Mr. Macdonald; with him went to the College, &c.

'*Saturday, September 16.*—Went round the Royal Infirmary with Mr. Macdonald; in it were a great number of cases of affection of the eye. . . . Visited Barclay's museum and dissecting-rooms—the museum of morbid preparations belonging to Dr. Munro. Introduced to the Doctor, who received me well, and explained the morbid preparations. He has beautiful specimens of ossified heart and calculus in windpipe (said to be first discovered by him). His private museum very select, and by and by will be well arranged. Museum of Natural History not open to the public. Saw, however, some preparations; will re-open in about two weeks; newly arranging them. . . . The University will be finished now without delay. The nephew of the late Professor Playfair has the completion of it, a young man of great promise as an architect. Visited the room in which the meetings of the society are held, &c., &c. Blind Asylum, Lunatic Asylum, Institution for Deaf and Dumb, Law Courts, Library attached to the Law Courts (a most mag-



nificent building), fever wards (it is in contemplation to do away with them), only at present about twenty-two patients; accommodation in the Infirmary for sixty or more.

‘Had the supposed situation of Effie Deans’ father’s house pointed out to me in a valley below the hill called Arthur’s Seat.

‘*September 17.*—Went to the Infirmary; saw through the house. Mr. Wishart was paying his visit. In the afternoon went with Mr. MacDonald to Lady Glenorchy’s Chapel. Went to Newhaven; took a berth in the “Superb” smack for London; fare, 3*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* Leith a very dirty seaport. Nothing of interest but the shipping to be seen here. Two steamers ply to villages on the opposite coast. Went to the Tower of Edinburgh, and saw the regalia, with the trunk from which the crown, sword, etc., were taken. The keys of the trunk were lost. Application was made to Government to open this trunk in the year 1794. It was not even suspected what it contained. Scotland being then in rather a disturbed state, permission was refused. No application was afterwards made till the year 1818, when the request was granted. It is said the application was through Walter Scott, and represented by him as interesting in some historical points. The trunk was broken open, and the contents were a crown, on a crimson velvet cushion (the ermine of the crown nearly destroyed by moths), the sword, scabbard, and sceptre. It would seem from a memorandum in the trunk that they had been deposited there in the year 1707, from the time of the Union.

‘Left Leith on Tuesday, September 19, by the Lanark “Superb.” Saw the coast nearly the whole way until Boston Deep. In the morning of Thursday, at 10 A.M., we saw the town of Cromer. The Sands of Yarmouth very dangerous for ships. Would not pass this place in the dark. Anchored for the night.

‘*Friday Morning, September 22.*—Got up at five o’clock to see the eclipse of the moon. About one-half eclipsed, disappeared in about half an hour. Sun rose most beautifully. This morning a person arrived on board



from the "Neptune," just returned from Davis's Straits. Took seventeen fish in latitude  $74^{\circ}$ ; been as far as  $76^{\circ}$ , but returned—could find no fish. Met with several whalers; all had taken fish. No account of the "Recovery Ships." He said they might have been there, but the weather so hazy could not see. Says that the Straits are like the Shetland Islands. After passing huge rocks safe anchorage is found in harbour. In latitude  $76^{\circ}$  sea very rough. Winter less severe than formerly. This person proves to be the surgeon. He thinks a passage may be found. On board the smack is a Miss Grant, from Inverness, who is going to London to meet her brother, who is in the 7th Native Infantry; and then intends to proceed with him and other friends to India.

'Arrived at Gravesend at 1 P.M. on Friday. Got to Greenwich, there anchored, and made for Wapping during the night.

'*Saturday, September 23.*—Landed at eight o'clock in the morning. Saw Miss Grant to No. 7 John Street, Oxford Street.

'*Sunday, September 24.*—Called on Miss Grant. Saw Captain Grant and his lady. Miss Grant was gone out to pay a visit. Captain Lewis Grant knows Charles, but has not seen him for nine years. Charles in the 1st Battalion, Captain Grant in the 2nd.

'*Tuesday, September 26.*—Saw Miss Grant and all her friends; took leave of them. Go on shipboard tomorrow; ship called the "Hooghly," bound for Madras. In London visited the British Museum, also Hunter's Museum; required a note from Mr. Clive in order to do so. None but members admitted at this season, and they are obliged to get a note from one of the committee.

'*Monday, October 2.*—Cooper's lecture.

'*Tuesday.*—Saw the Watermen's Procession. Went to see the Lords return from the House (first day of sitting). Dukes of Cumberland and York cheered; Duke of Wellington groaned at, so also the Marquis of Anglesea. Left London for Oxford and Birmingham, October 5. Left Birmingham next day by "The Traveller" for Manchester. Went through the towns of Wolverhampton,



Stafford, Newcastle, Macclesfield, Stockport. "Traveller" a safe coach. Arrived in Manchester a quarter past seven o'clock. Found all well."

On the evening of the day upon which Mr. Turner arrived in London he wrote to his father as follows:—

'I think you will be surprised at the extraordinary route I have taken to arrive at this metropolis. I left Manchester, and went by coach to Liverpool. There entered on board a steam-packet and went to the Isle of Man, and from thence to Greenock. From Greenock I went to Dumbarton, and visited the Highlands, their lakes, their mountains, or Great Bens, and the scenery so beautifully illustrated in poetical as well as prose language by the celebrated Walter Scott. After taking in as much as I could, and loading my person with geological specimens, I left the romantic scenery of the Highlands for the noise and bustle of Glasgow. This city is, I assure you, a very fine one, and far exceeding my expectations. As all manufacturing places are, it is rather bustling, and is, in fact, quite the reverse of Edinburgh, where nothing but literature and science are attended to, and which is justly entitled to the appellation given it by a late writer, namely, "Modern Athens." On my way from Glasgow (where I stopped two days, well employed in visiting the different institutions) I saw the celebrated mills of Mr. Owen, at Lanark, of which, I dare say, you have often heard and read. To tell you what I saw, and afterwards to give you my opinion of his system of education, would take up all my paper; therefore for the present it must be deferred. With Edinburgh I am delighted. The chief object of my tour was obtained in this city—that is, an acquaintance with the School of Medicine. To this subject I devoted the greatest part of my time, and I left Edinburgh satisfied that I saw as much as my time could possibly allow.

'Having had an introductory letter to one of the medical men in the Infirmary, access was procured for me to all the public and private museums; and many facilities were furnished for enquiring into matters a knowledge of which I could not have without such an intro-



duction. I remained in Edinburgh four and a half days, and then took ship at Leith for London; and after being on the water four days and four nights arrived here. We left Leith last Tuesday morning, and landed at Wapping at eight this morning.

‘The distance I have travelled by land and water since I left Manchester has been great. Just follow me on the map and you will have some idea of it. I have become an excellent sailor, was not sick more than two hours, and am now able to walk the quarter-deck with as much firmness as an old sailor.

‘I have now to relate to you a singular circumstance, which proves how strangely people are thrown together. On board the Leith smack was a young lady who had been placed on board by her friends. To this lady I paid some attention (though not more than common politeness demanded), and soon she unfolded her plans to me, and the object of her visit to the metropolis. I found her extremely well informed—indeed, a remarkably clever girl; and with Scotch and English literature she was quite at home. Ere we had been acquainted forty-eight hours confidence in each other seemed to be established, and she told me who and what she was. Her name is Grant,<sup>1</sup> and the brothers whom she is going to visit in London are in the East India service; and what is remarkable is that the eldest son is in the 7th Native Infantry, the regiment in which I believe Charles was. This, however, I shall soon ascertain. . . . I did not write to inform you of my plans before I left Manchester, not because I for a moment thought you would object to them, but to save you any anxiety about me when on the water. . . . My chief reason for making the tour was to see the Medical School of Edinburgh. . . . To have settled in practice without doing this would perhaps have been a source of vexation to me at a future period. I shall commence with the satisfactory feeling that I have visited the principal schools in Europe, and therefore

<sup>1</sup> This lady afterwards married the Rev. Dr. Massey, who was for several years a missionary in India, and is well known as the author of several interesting works.



shall have nothing to regret. I am sure my dear father must feel as I do, and that he will not be displeased at my having undertaken this trip without consulting him. . . . . My business in London will not take me many days, and then I shall return to Manchester and fix. During my absence Bess (his sister) and Mr. Smith are busily engaged in furnishing my house, so that on my return I expect to find everything in order.'

Mr. Turner's first residence in Manchester was situated in Piccadilly, and he took possession of it in the autumn of the year 1820.

Two positive resolutions were formed by him on settling in practice at this time, to which he adhered ever afterwards. The first was that he would never have a medical partner, but would rather decline to receive cases which he could not undertake, if his professional engagements became so numerous as to require this; and the second was, that he would never have a surgery, but devote himself exclusively to consultation and family practice.

He regarded the dispensing of medicines by medical men as needful perhaps in the country, but altogether unnecessary in towns, and derogatory to the profession, so that, as such, he would have nothing to do with it. Mr. Turner had thoroughly qualified himself in both medicine and surgery, although he never took out the degree of physician, to which he was entitled. His deep interest in the science of surgery, and his skill as an operator, no doubt, acted as hindrances, and this formed a subject of congratulation to himself and his family in later years, when the distinction had been conferred upon him of election as a member of the Council of the College of Surgeons, thus raising him to the highest rank of professional eminence which can be attained. We must not, however, forestal the contents of a future chapter.



## CHAPTER VI.

## EXTRACTS FROM DIARY.—FAMILY BEREAVEMENTS.

MR. TURNER commenced a diary on August 13, 1821, which he continued until October 1826; and a few extracts from its pages will now be given:—

‘*August 26.*—Wrote my father to-day congratulating him on the receipt of my brother’s sword. Made some observations on our Natural History Society, &c.

‘*September 1.*—For this past week I have devoted my time to scarcely anything beside my essay on hæmorrhage, which I have now completed.

‘Received a letter from my brother Edmund this morning containing very unfavourable accounts of my father.

‘*September 9.*—Left Manchester for Truro.

‘*September 26.*—Left Truro for Manchester, returned by way of London, and arrived at home on the 4th of October.

‘*October 11.*—Elected Secretary of the Natural History Society of this town (*pro tem.*), as all the officers have been as yet.

‘*October 17.*—In consequence of an unfavourable report of the state of my father I left Manchester again on this day for Cornwall, and arrived at Truro on Saturday, October 20. Found him much worse.’

The illness to which Mr. Turner thus alludes ended fatally; but a few particulars in connection with the family history will here be given before entering upon the circumstances of this last illness.

The bank owned by Mr. Turner’s father, and which was his own property, was situated upon the site of the present Cornwall and Devon Bank, in Boscawen Street,



Truro. He owned also the house adjoining, which was at the corner of Boscawen and Lemon Street, where he resided, and where all the members of his family were born. When his children were still young, however, he built a house about a mile distant from the bank, which he called Mount Charles, and which, notwithstanding certain enlargements, still bears the same general character as in former days, though Lemon Street, into which the carriage-drive opens, is greatly changed, being lined with terraces, instead of the green fields and hedges of earlier years. Here Mrs. Turner died, after a lingering illness, and having only attained her fifty-seventh year. She was a very handsome woman, with fair hair, aquiline nose, and large blue eyes; and everything which has been handed down in reference to her seems to show that she was loving, sensible, and domestic, and secured to a very large extent the affection and confidence of all her family. Her eldest son Charles appears to have been deeply attached to her, and used to say that, should he ever die in battle, his mother's miniature would be found next his heart. In a farewell letter addressed to her from Portsmouth, just before he sailed for India, in 1809, he thus writes:—

‘My dearest Mother,—Among the different occupations of my cabin at present, mine, in addressing you, is not, I assure you, the least interesting, although I may feel a momentary pang at the conception that I am now dictating the farewell lines to the dearest of relations; yet the idea that my wishes are accomplished, and that my welfare is inseparably connected with my leaving for a season my country, removes the transitory sensation and restores calmness to my breast. The fortitude which you displayed at my departure, and the rational arguments which at times I have heard you with pleasure employ, in order to the reconciling of yourself to my absence, form the foundation of my hope that you have ere this recovered your former tranquillity so far as to appear a cheerful mother in the midst of your family, performing those domestic functions of which you always appeared so fond; and moreover I flatter myself that my dear father's



re-appearance has dissipated that gloominess which might have been the inmate of our house—or, at least, contributed in a great degree to the restoration of that composure for which my daily prayers weary heaven.’

After describing his accommodation on board ship, &c., the letter proceeds:—

‘The pilot-boat which brings our letters is alongside. . . . . I am rather disappointed at finding nothing from Truro, for I have not received anything since I have trodden the boards of the “Devonshire;” except, indeed, I heard of my family’s welfare in a letter which I received a few days ago from Foote. Let my friend know that he shall hear from me before I leave England. I can give you no certain information respecting our sailing. Our despatches will arrive about Saturday, and we expect to weigh anchor about Tuesday, if the wind is propitious. I am happy to inform you that I have found the young cadets on board agreeable companions; the generality bound for Bengal. The officers of our mess are intelligent men, so far as concerns their profession and India. From them I enquire much concerning the country. They describe Fort William as a delightful place, about a mile from Calcutta, and the first fort in the world. . . . . Our ship to-day is rather in a confusion, owing to the coming of passengers. . . . . We shall complete about thirty in our mess, including six fair ones, who are not yet on board. . . . . I at present employ my hours in reading, writing, &c., and I assure you the day passes on agreeably. . . . . Now, my dear mother, you may observe my life is not intolerable on board ship. . . . . I am aware what a mere rhapsody I have made of this letter, but rather than hazard your disappointment by the brevity of it, I submit it with all its imperfections on its head to your perusal. I suppose Hymen is fast preparing his torch to light the fond patient couple to the altar;<sup>1</sup> that every blessing may attend them and their posterity shall be the not unfrequent prayer of their affectionate though absent brother. I cannot expect to remain in sight of the British shores until the consumma-

<sup>1</sup> In allusion to the approaching marriage of his youngest sister.



tion of the affair, but if possible let me know the very day, and I will not fail to spend that day joyfully, in whatever part of the world I may be. I will indulge myself in the hope that all my dear sisters and brothers are in perfect health, and sometimes think of me, as I am sure I do of them. Let all the household partake of my best wishes, and convey them also to the friends who have shown me so much civility. Now, my dear mother, I wish you and my dear father and family the continuance of every sublunary felicity, with the hope that you will again receive me in the midst of you, possessed of everything you can expect. I find my spirits failing; I know you will excuse a better adieu.

‘I am and ever will remain,

‘Your dutiful and affectionate son,

‘CHAS. W. TURNER.’

The mother and son were, however, never to meet again. Mrs. Turner died on the 14th February, 1814; and though he survived her many years, he was not permitted to revisit his native land.

The reader will have noted an allusion made by Mr. Turner in his diary to a sword which his brother had sent home to his father. It was the one which has been previously mentioned as having been presented to him for gallant conduct in the battle of Bareilly; but before its receipt by his father the brave spirit of its owner had passed away. He died on the 6th of May, 1821, aged 31.

The following letter, penned by an attached brother officer, and announcing the sad intelligence to his father, is full of touching interest:—

‘My dear Sir,—I feel it my duty, however painful, to communicate to you the melancholy loss you have sustained in your excellent son Charles Turner. Mr. Metcalf, the British Resident at the Court of Hydrabad, had taken a great interest in his welfare, and procured him an appointment in the cavalry of the sovereign of that country, which opened to him a fair field of reputation and wealth. Of the former few men have in India gained so large a por-



tion in so early a period of their career ; and to the latter he was totally indifferent, except as the means of enabling him to see you again. This seemed always the first wish of his heart, and he would dwell on the distant prospect with a degree of anxiety that often gave a tone of melancholy, even in the midst of gaiety, to a mind naturally cheerful.

‘ Eager to take charge of his appointment, he left Calcutta in the hottest season of the year. On his way he got an attack of fever from exposure to the excessive heat, but was slowly recovering under the care of the surgeon of Vizagapatam, when it is said that an attack of gout in the stomach caused his death. But I am inclined to believe this a mistake, as he was liable to frequent and severe attacks of spasms in the stomach, and I think it more likely that one of these proved fatal. These are all the circumstances that I have yet been able to learn of an event that has deprived you of a son who stood higher in general esteem and respect, and was more beloved by his particular friends, than almost any young man I have ever known in India.

‘ He had been singularly fortunate in having a number of opportunities of signalling himself as a soldier and a scholar, and every one was by him improved to the utmost advantage. His talents were of that imposing kind—a spirit so bold, and a heart so romantically generous, that it was impossible to remain a moment in his company with indifference, and impossible to know him more intimately without attachment. This attachment was not confined to men of his own age ; some of the most distinguished officers of our army felt it in common with his youngest companions, and he never served under one that he did not leave his friend. His honourable principles, his courage and his capacity gained their respect, while the amiable feelings of his heart and his engaging manners secured their affection.

‘ I have lost in him an inestimable friend, a friend I valued above all others in India ; he was the only one that I had known in England, and my attachment for him grew as we grew in years. I have lost in him a world of



interests, interests never to be recovered, for I feel that his place can never be supplied.

‘A thousand melancholy recollections crowd on the memory of the years we have spent together, the scenes in which we have acted together, on the stage of life; companions at home, on the sea, and in college—but why should I intrude on your sorrows with my own? It may be a source of consolation to you to know that he had always a strong sense of your affection and paternal tenderness towards him.

‘The most painful part of sorrow flows from a consciousness of opportunities of kindness lost never to be recovered; but you have the satisfaction of knowing that Charles experienced everything from you that his heart could wish, and all that he regretted was not being always near his father, sisters, and brothers. He was an honour to his family, a credit to his country, and an ornament to the army in which he served. . . . .

‘I have reason to believe that he wrote to you immediately before he left Calcutta, or I would enclose a letter I got from him at that time, penned in haste, but expressive of the satisfaction he felt at his new appointment, which on his part was entirely unsolicited.

‘Indeed, his pride would never stoop to solicitation, but determined him to owe all advancement to personal merit, which had so often brought him into public notice. India seems to me at once to have lost all the little attraction it ever had. It is impossible to those who have not been placed in similar circumstances to conceive how dear are the ties of those who in a foreign country have as it were a common home and common friends; whose hopes and whose fears concentrate as it were upon common objects; or to realise the melancholy vacuum that succeeds the awful visitation of Providence which rends those ties for ever. I have often indulged the vain yet pleasing hope of returning with Charles to our native country and our mutual friends; but, at the same time that there were none who looked forward to this event with more solicitude, because there were none who had more numerous or more affectionate relations, yet perhaps there were none worse calculated to secure the means of effecting it. We had not learned to



descend to that system of rigid economy necessary to save in the common gradations of rank ; and we had neither of us any interest but what our own efforts obtained.

‘ Charles got the start of me in the path that might have led to honour, to wealth, and above all to home. In his fair and agreeable prospects I felt an unmingled delight ; a man I esteemed and loved less I should certainly have envied. Except yourself, his sisters, and his brothers, no one can feel his loss more keenly than I do. I shall not presume to offer any consolation, except what may arise from the assurance that Charles to the last was all that you could wish in religion, honour, talents, and affections, and that every attention was shown him by the surgeon of Vizagapatam, in whose house he died.

‘ A few of his particular friends are to erect a monument over his remains. Among those is Captain Royce, now Arabic and Persian Professor in the College of Fort William, whom you may have remembered to have supported an unsuccessful struggle with Charles for literary fame in the college of which he now occupies the first chair.

‘ With him Charles lived while in Calcutta, and he was one of his oldest and most valued friends.

‘ I am, dear Sir,

‘ Yours very faithfully,

‘ W. H. SLEEMAN.

‘ June 21st, 1821.’

Another letter was received from Mr. Underwood, the garrison surgeon at Vizagapatam, from which it appears that upon Lieutenant Turner’s arrival there he said he had taken cold, and complained of stiffness in his limbs ; various unfavourable symptoms came on, and after several days’ illness, Mr. Underwood writes that ‘ actual inflammation of the lungs was evidently indicated,’ and continues : ‘ So rapid was its progress that no treatment I could devise seemed to have the slightest effect in arresting its course ; and it is with feelings of very heartfelt concern that I inform you that his dissolution took place on the evening of the 6th of May, as he had himself predicted when the difficulty of breathing commenced. His observation to me



was, "I thank you kindly for your attention to me, but I feel I cannot live above twenty-four hours." He was interred in the burying-ground of this garrison with all military honours, and attended to the grave by all the gentlemen, civil and military, of the station. In communication with his friend Mr. Ray, of Calcutta, I learn that it is intended to erect a monument over him by his numerous friends, and I have undertaken to carry his wishes into effect. I shall hereafter have the honour to address you further on this subject and to send you a drawing of the mausoleum erected. As he was unable to write he requested me to send the following articles to his agents, Messrs. Cruthender, McKillup & Co., Calcutta, to be forwarded to England for you and his sister. This I have done by the brig "Stonham," which I hear is arrived in Calcutta. For his father a miniature of an elderly lady and one of a young lady, his sword with a leather and a steel scabbard, a plain red silk sash, and another embossed with gold for full-dress. For his sister a hair neck-chain, with an emerald brooch, one gold ring, and another with a small ruby. These articles he constantly wore. It may be a consolation to you to be informed that he died perfectly resigned and happy, speaking with the utmost composure of mind, although with great difficulty and exertion: so that he was prohibited from conversing, which will account for his having said so little on family affairs. It was, however, his request that I would write to you.

'I made examination after death, and found a very large collection of water in the thorax and pericardium. I shall be glad of a line addressed to me as Surgeon of the Madras Establishment.

'I am, dear Sir,

'Yours obediently,

'JAMES UNDERWOOD,

'Garrison Surgeon.'

The aged father to whom these sad letters were addressed was upon his death-bed when the tidings of his loss arrived, and his two remaining sons determined to conceal from him the painful intelligence. He retained



perfect consciousness to the last, calmly awaiting his approaching departure. To a faithful servant who had been in the family many years he spoke with the utmost composure, giving her directions which had evident reference to his funeral, to which he alluded as 'that day.' He peacefully expired on Nov. 9, in his seventy-first year, in the presence of his two sons and a faithful manservant. The event is thus mentioned by Mr. Turner in his diary. After naming his having been summoned to his father, and his arrival in Truro on Oct. 20, he continues: 'I remained with him till his death, which happened on the 9th of November, at 7 P.M., 1821. He died without pain and perfectly happy, in peace with all mankind, and what is still better, at peace with God. He was interred in St. Mary's Cemetery, on Wednesday, Nov. 14, at five in the morning. Very many persons attended.' Everyone acquainted with Mr. Turner will recognise a familiar feature of his character in the unusually early hour fixed for his father's interment. Few perhaps have ever felt more deeply and strongly than he did in reference to the subject of pomp and parade in death.

His truthful and earnest nature recoiled from it as a thing which he believed to be abhorrent in the sight of God, and all unnecessary publicity at such times he regarded as an intrusion into the grief of the sorrowing. He felt that if any event in time could show forth human sin and human nothingness, it was death, and that consequently there could be no occasion upon which the indulgence of display and pride could be so unsuitable or so offensive.

Notwithstanding Mr. Turner's efforts to secure privacy, however, 'very many persons,' as he notes, assembled to witness the last solemn act by which the earthly remains of his beloved father were committed to their last resting-place; but we may well believe that at such an hour on a November day only those attended who were drawn thither by affection and truly sympathised with the mourners. We are writing of more than fifty years ago, and, as may well be imagined, but few remain who were eye-witnesses of the scenes which we are narrating; but



the two faithful servants to whom allusion has been made as having nursed Mr. Turner's father through his last illness still survive, and were married shortly after his death.

This aged couple were visited by a member of the family only a few months since, and were shown a miniature of their former master; their delight was extreme, and most touching to witness. The old woman feasted her eyes upon it for a moment in silence, and then raising it to her lips kissed it again and again, saying, 'My dear old master!' and uttering from time to time over it expressions of the most tender and reverent affection.

Mr. Turner's likeness was also shown, and greeted as 'Mr. Tom' in the same fervent way. Few things are more touching, perhaps, or more beautiful than such instances of genuine attachment and simple love.

The circumstances under which this miniature was taken are characteristic. Mr. Turner had greatly desired to possess one of his father, but the old gentleman had an unconquerable aversion to sitting for his likeness, which had defeated all his son's efforts.

The occasion of a visit to London when Mr. Turner was a student there presented, however, so favourable an opportunity for the accomplishment of his wishes that it could not be suffered to go by. Mr. Turner, therefore, called upon Mr. Patten, the celebrated miniature-painter, and made an arrangement with him to bring his father at a fixed hour on a certain day. As the specified time approached Mr. Turner invited his father to walk with him, and directed his steps towards the artist's studio. Arriving at the door, he said, 'I have a little business here, sir; will you come up with me?'

His unsuspecting father assented, and quietly followed his son into the artist's room. 'Now, Mr. Patten, I want you to take a miniature of my father,' Mr. Turner said. 'Not for the world, Tom; I should have a stiff neck for at least a month,' exclaimed the old gentleman. 'Sir,' rejoined Mr. Patten, 'your countenance is such a marked one that I shall give you but little trouble—I almost think that one sitting will suffice.' And so the plot



succeeded, and Mr. Turner obtained a beautiful and most faithful miniature, which has been ever since regarded as a treasure in the family.

We shall close this chapter with a few more extracts from Mr. Turner's diary, more or less connected with the events which have been recorded:—

*‘November 19.*—Left Truro for Manchester by way of London; arrived in London on Wednesday morning. Went to the India House to enquire about my poor brother's effects. Was introduced to a Captain Forrest, who with great civility acceded to my wishes in every particular. Wrote a letter to Captain Peter Grant, of the 28th Native Infantry, to request he would make enquiry about my brother's case. Charles' death has been officially reported to the Board of Directors in the language of the *‘Asiatic Journal’* for November. . . . . Remained in London Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Left by the *“Defiance”* on Friday evening, and arrived in Manchester on Saturday, November 24, at half-past six p.m.

*‘Had an interview with my sister that night.*

*‘November 26.*—Wrote Edmund to announce my arrival home, result of my enquiry at the India House, disposal of the miniatures, &c.’

We shall now return to Mr. Turner's professional and scientific life, feeling persuaded that the reader will pardon the digression into which we have been betrayed, intimately connected as the scenes which we have been describing were with the deep personal feelings and outward life of the subject of this memoir.



## CHAPTER VII.

THE MANCHESTER LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY—MR. TURNER ELECTED A MEMBER, AND SHORTLY AFTERWARDS ONE OF THE COUNCIL—VISIT TO THE LAKES—DELIVERS HIS FIRST COURSE OF LECTURES IN THE ROOMS OF THE LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY—HANDSOME TESTIMONIAL AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE COURSE.

THE Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society, has, for nearly a hundred years, numbered among its members, all the men of distinguished ability born in the neighbourhood, as well as many residents at a distance, whose love of science and literature has been such, as to lead them to seek communion with kindred minds, notwithstanding that in its early days, the means of communication were infinitely fewer, and slower, than those which it is now our privilege to possess. Berthollet, Banks, Davy, Jenner, Roscoe, Henry, Roget, Percival, Ferrier, White, Aiken, Rush, Young, and Holme, were all numbered among its distinguished members; and the illustrious Dalton was its President at the time of which we are now writing. It is true that the Literary and Philosophical Society was not fully organised until the winter of 1781, when Mr. Henry, the eminent surgeon, was appointed one of its secretaries, but for many years previously a number of gifted men had been in the habit of meeting from time to time, at their own homes, for the discussion of subjects connected with the promotion of science and literature.

Mr. Henry was an ardent lover of the institution, and to his zealous exertions on its behalf the infant Society owed much. He contributed many papers for discussion



at its meetings, and some of these were greatly in advance of the views generally held upon the subjects on which he wrote, and have been preserved in the published volumes of the society. One of the most important of these essays is to be found in the third volume of the first series, and reflects great credit upon the talent of the author. It is entitled 'Considerations on the Nature of Wool, Silk, and Cotton, as objects of the Art of Dyeing; on the various preparations and mordants requisite for these different substances; and on the nature and properties of colouring matter.'

It has been mentioned that the Literary and Philosophical Society was fully organised in 1781, and two of its most energetic promoters were Dr. Percival and Mr. Charles White. The former was born at Warrington in 1740, and in 1756 became a member of the Royal Society, London, being the youngest man ever elected into that learned body. Dr. Percival was one of the first Presidents of the Literary and Philosophical Society in Manchester, and held the office until his death, which took place in 1804. Mr. Charles White was a very eminent surgeon and man of science, and for several years acted as Vice-President.

The celebrated Dalton became a member of the Literary and Philosophical Society in 1794, and read his first essay, 'On extraordinary facts relating to the Vision of Colours,' the same year. His first course of lectures in connection with the society was delivered in 1805, and embraced twenty lectures, the subject being 'Experimental Philosophy.'

So much it is, perhaps, desirable to narrate of the rise and early history of the Literary and Philosophical Society, of which the subject of this memoir was elected a member in 1821, Dalton being at that time the President, and Dr. Henry (son of Mr. Henry, previously mentioned) and Dr. Holme two of its brightest ornaments.

The meetings of the society were attended by Mr. Turner with very deep interest, and many allusions to them are made by him in the diary which he kept at this time, and to the pages of which we shall now recur:—



‘*November 22.*—Officers appointed to the Natural History Society. Find that I am appointed Secretary, an advantageous situation on many accounts.’

‘*November 30.*—Attended a meeting of the Philosophical Society this evening. Some conversation took place on the Aurora Borealis, seen on Monday last. The phenomenon soon disappeared. A question was asked by one of the members as to the cause of this appearance occurring less frequently than formerly. Mr. Dalton answered that it could not be explained, but certain it was that it had its periods. Some persons have remarked that it is often accompanied by a sound; this was considered deceptive by Mr. D., Dr. Henry, and others. Certain meteors in their descent are accompanied by a noise, but this is only when they deposit a solid matter. The distance of the Aurora from us ordinarily is seventy, eighty, or more miles.

‘Mr. Buchan observed some large spots near the meridian of the sun some days back; such spots usually disappear in a few days. He also observed a spot in Jupiter.

‘A remark or two was made on the appendage usually discovered to the cornea of the shark; it exists invariably in sharks, and produces blindness. It appears to be of the order mollusca.

‘A paper was read by Mr. Dalton, “on the effects of continued electrification on compound and mixed gases.” It contained an account of experiments made by Priestley, Dr. Henry, himself, and others. He proved that almost all the compound gases are capable of analysis, by sending through them a series of electric sparks, and that by the operation they are resolved into their constituent parts. In a conversation afterwards we learnt his opinion founded on his atomic theory. He thinks that electricity acts mechanically by separating the particles of gas.

‘*December 5.*—Received this day a handsome letter from Mons. Le Docteur Nacquart, Secretary to the Medical Society of Paris, announcing the approbation of the society on account of a physiological memoir which I presented to it, and that the members have been pleased to confer upon me the title of “Correspondent Spécial.”



‘*January 17, 1822.*—This evening we had a paper at the Natural History Society, by Dr. Holme, on a non-descript animal, *lermea*, order *Mollusca*. It is often found attached to the eye of that species of shark called the blind shark. Mr. Dean brought it from Baffins Bay.

‘*February 3.*—Had some conversation with Mr. MacFarlane relative to the Giants’ Causeway. He has presented me with earth which seems to have been subjected to the action of fire—reasons for supposing that this was the scene of a volcano.

‘*February 5.*—Spent this evening with Mr. Buchan. Saw his casts of heads sent from O’Neal, of Edinburgh, who has been allowed to take casts from the busts and skulls in the possession of Sir G. McKenzie, the craniologist. Amongst these are the heads of Dr. Gall’s friend, who gave origin to the system; Bonaparte, a beautiful head; Sir Isaac Newton, and many others, to illustrate Gall and Spurzheim’s theory—a theory of which for the present we can say but little. . . . Examined the circulation in the tail of a fish—*animalcula* in water; and through his telescope we viewed Jupiter and Saturn; but as they were low in the horizon and the evening was stormy, the view was not distinct for long together. The seven satellites of Saturn could not be seen. At this time Saturn is distant from the earth about 9,000,000 miles, and Jupiter 5,000,000. From each other the distance is about 4,000,000 of miles. Saturn will be lost to us in the month of April, Jupiter in the month of May. It would appear that the highest temperature of the thermometer last year (1821) was on the day of the coronation, namely, July 19.

‘*February 14.*—Mr. Dyer and his friend Mr. Perkins supped with me this evening. Mr. Perkins has, by experiment, proved the compressibility of water. He is the inventor of the bank-note which defies forgers. He is the discoverer of the method of softening steel, by which the common wood-engravings in books can be substituted by fine engravings, and at a trifling increase of expense. These are used in “Pinnock’s Catechisms.”



‘*March.*—Spent much time this month in finishing my series of lectures on the “Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology of the Human Body.” Completed my lectures on the five senses, intended for publication when revised, &c.

‘*April* 2.—Arrival of trinkets, &c. from India; miniature of my mother, that of my father; likeness so great as to recall to mind the fact related by Cheselden, of the boy whom he restored to sight.

‘*May.*—During the whole of this month I have devoted my time principally to my lectures, which are nearly completed. Mr. and Mrs. Plummer (Mr. Turner’s eldest sister) have spent the greater part of this month in Manchester.

‘*June.*—I have waived every kind of study for my lectures, which I am anxious to arrange and correct ere the month of August, in order to make the necessary arrangements for my course. Dr. Henry has recommended me to lecture.’

Some fragmentary notes (but not without interest) will be here given of a brief visit to the Lake district made by Mr. Turner at this time:

‘*July.*—Went to the Lakes. Left Manchester on July 7th, by coach. Went to Lancaster, passing through Preston. Saw the Asylum at Lancaster, Castle, and Church. Went on at 11 A.M. to Kendal, twenty-two miles; afterwards went to Low Wood, fifteen miles. . . . Got there about six.’

‘On Monday, the 8th, took horse and went to Keswick, distant eighteen miles. Passed through the village of Ambleside. Saw Wordsworth’s house. Passed on the edge of Grasmere and other lakes. Saw Helvellyn, &c. Arrived at Keswick at 8.30, P.M. Put up at the “Royal Oak.” Got wet through. Went to bed early.

‘*Tuesday, July 9.*—Rose early, but could not ascend Skiddaw on account of the unfavourable state of the weather. Went to see some Druidical remains. About fifty stones form a circle. Neighbouring hill commands a beautiful view of Derwentwater and its islands, Skiddaw, and its rival mountain, Helvellyn.

‘Went to Mr. Hutton’s Museum. Made purchases in



minerals, &c. Went to Green's collection of paintings and engravings. Met Mr. Clarke, author of poems; politely offered to send me a copy. Southey—introduction—Coleridge and Miss Coleridge. Left Keswick half-past six of the 9th.

‘ Views most picturesque. Look back on Keswick with regret. View of Derwentwater from the hill, which you ascend soon after leaving Keswick. Reached Ambleside at nine. Dove's Nest at half-past nine. Slept there. Beautiful situation, &c.

‘ *Wednesday, July 10.*—Rydal Mount. Waterfalls. Stockgill Force. Wordsworth—went with Mr. W.

‘ *Thursday, July 11.*—Bolton Lake echo. Dined at Newby Bridge; reflections, &c. Got wet.

‘ *Friday, July 12.*—Ulleswater; left in the evening. Lancaster, Preston, &c. Home at seven, Saturday evening.

‘ *August 3.*—Announced my intention, through the medium of the public papers, of giving a course of lectures during the ensuing winter.

‘ *August 6.*—Received a letter from Mr. Clarke, the author of the poem entitled “Derwent River.” He is the clergyman of East Bergholt, Suffolk.

‘ *August 14.*—Wrote to the Rev. W. B. Clarke, on receiving his friendly letter, referring to various topics connected with my late tour.

‘ *September 2.*—Received from Mr. Clarke a copy of “Derwent River,” and a small poem written last year upon the occasion of the Queen's death. The books accompanied with a long letter on subjects of literature.

‘ *September 18.*—Wrote Mr. Clarke; gave my opinion of poems. Many beauties, a few defects. On infidelity, a question caused by some remarks on his poem, “Derwent River.” Observations on Bichat's, Morgan's, Lawrence's, and Gall and Spurzheim's opinion on mind and soul. General literature; my own pursuits at this time, &c.

‘ *September 20.*—Have finished my work entitled “An Epitome of Anatomy and Physiology, in their application to Medicine and Surgery,” or “A System of Professional Education,” which it is by-and-by my intention to publish. Corrections and additions will be necessary.



‘ *October*.—During the whole of this month have been busy in making the necessary preparations for my lectures.

‘ *November 1*.—Delivered the first introductory lecture of my course. Present about sixty-six.

‘ *November 4*.—Delivered the second introductory lecture. About the same number present as before.

‘ *December*.—During this month I have been fully engaged with my lectures.

‘ Spent Christmas-day at Chaddock Hall as usual.

‘ *January 9, 1823*.—Annual meeting of the Society for the Promotion of Natural History. Re-appointed secretary.

‘ *January and February*.—Fully occupied with my lectures.

‘ *March 17*.—Delivered the concluding address to my class. Present about sixty persons. My course has consisted of seventy lectures.

‘ Wrote E. Stacey to thank Mr. Richardson<sup>1</sup> for his kind offer to send me a copy of the “*Encyclopædia Metropolitana*.”

‘ *March 20*.—Wrote the Rev. W. B. Clarke; subjects of my course mentioned. Argument on mind reduced to identity and non-identity. I do not contend for matter in any other way than that it is essential to the manifestation of the faculties.

‘ His argument respecting odour is in my favour, as odour is decidedly material, because it depends on the presence of invisible particles in the atmosphere, which particles are emanations from the scented body.

‘ If the materiality of mind rested on so substantial a basis the point would be gained. . . . Mind and soul are two distinct essences; the former we may presume to speculate about, the latter is sacred ground, and not to be attempted. Human powers of reasoning have their limits; to try to go beyond them is to err infallibly.

‘ *March 24*.—Making arrangements for a course of lectures “*On the violent causes of death*,” as poison and asphyxia.

‘ Suspended the above until I have made a new ar-

<sup>1</sup> Afterwards Dr. Richardson, author of a valuable dictionary, especially showing the derivation of words.



rangement and additions, for my next winter's course, on anatomy and physiology, and the application of these sciences to medicine and surgery.

'April 18.—At the annual meeting of the Literary and Philosophical Society, held this evening, I was appointed one of the six councilmen of the society.

'April 19.—Induced, from conversation with a friend, and a conviction of their utility, to undertake a series of essays on "Poisons" and "Suspended animation."

'Sent a note, under the signature of S., to the "Iris" paper, stating my reasons for undertaking the work, and requesting they will give publicity to them.

'April 19.—Reply in the "Iris" to my note: "S.'s wishes shall have our support. Our correspondent's judgment will lead him to study conciseness and a familiar style."

'April 25.—Sent to the "Iris" a preliminary paper on the subjects, "Poisons and suspended animation."

'April 26.—In the "Iris": "S.'s valuable paper on 'Suspended animation' came too late for insertion this week. It shall appear in the 'Iris' of next Saturday. We cannot omit the opportunity of acquainting our readers generally that the communications of our correspondent S. have claims upon their serious attention, equally as individuals, as heads of families, and as members of society."

'May 3.—My preliminary paper appeared to-day in the "Iris."

'May 17.—First essay appeared to-day.

'June 7.—Second essay. "Mineral Poisons," on "Acids," appeared to-day. The editor seems very complimentary to his unknown correspondent, for before the essay appears the following paragraph: "The following paper cannot be too strongly recommended to immediate and frequent perusal; nor can we omit the opportunity of thanking our kind correspondent for his disinterestedness and generous sympathy. Professional knowledge becomes valuable when it thus *gratuitously* enlightens and benefits mankind."

'During the whole of June I have been engaged in preparing a work for publication.



‘*July 5.*—Paper upon “Alkalies” appeared to-day.

‘*July 16.*—At a dinner given this day at the Albion a gold vase was presented to me. Present from about forty-five to fifty. Evening passed off well. Dr. Hardy presided upon this occasion, Mr. Ainsworth being vice-president.’

The following description of the vase and of its presentation to Mr. Turner appeared in the Manchester papers of July 19:—

‘On Wednesday, at a dinner given at the Albion Hotel, by the gentlemen who attended the course of lectures recently delivered by Mr. Turner, on the anatomy, physiology, and pathology of the human body, an elegant antique gold vase, richly chased, and of a perfectly unique design, was presented to Mr. Turner. The handles are composed of serpents entwined. On the top of the cover, which is bordered with a wreath of roses, shamrocks, and thistles, is a beautiful figure of Apollo reclining on a lyre, and holding a shield emblazoned with the sun. On one side Mr. Turner’s arms are engraved; on the reverse is a tablet, surrounded with laurel, and supported by Æsculapius and Hygeia, with their respective emblems. It bears the following inscription: “This vase is presented to Thomas Turner, Esq., member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, &c., &c., by the members who attended his first course of lectures on the Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology of the Human Body, as a sincere though inadequate testimony of the respect they entertain for his talents and industry as a public lecturer, and of their regard for him as a man.’ The vase was brought into the room by two medical students and placed on the table before the president, by whom it was immediately handed to Mr. Guest (a well-known medical man in the town), who was deputed by the class to present the same, which he did with the following address:—

‘“Mr. Turner,—We are this day assembled for the purpose of presenting this vase to you, as a testimony of the high respect and esteem which are due to your talents as a lecturer, and as a memento of the very able manner in which you have conducted your first course of lectures.



“The extensive, clear, and comprehensive views of every subject of which you have treated has convinced us that your assiduity in search of materials, and the time you have spent in the arrangement of them for our good, merits our warmest gratitude. The persevering industry which you evinced during the whole course was evident from your numberless quotations of authorities, both ancient and modern, and not only of your own country, but also the latest French and German. Chemistry, mechanics, and the arts and sciences connected with the subjects of your course were all brought as it were into one focus, declaring to us more forcibly than words can express, the manner by which *we* likewise are to attain a knowledge of our profession.

“Upon these and other considerations we present this sincere though imperfect acknowledgment of the benefit and improvement we have derived. We beg your acceptance of it. It has not originated with one individual or two. The ardour has been universal; it originated with *all*.

“Your suavity of disposition and urbanity of manner (not at all partaking of the stiffness or formality of the master) have endeared you to all your pupils, and ever will do so.

“Mr. Turner, we are proud of the present opportunity; future classes will attend your lectures, and they will have to regret they were not of the present happy number, and that they cannot express the same decisive manifestation of this feeling, which we alone can enjoy. Little remains for me to add, in fact *nothing*. This pledge (handing the vase to Mr. Turner) of a grateful class tells the remainder.”

“It was with the deepest feeling that Mr. Turner rose to reply, and spoke as follows:—

“Gentlemen,—For the very flattering manner in which Mr. Guest has been pleased to eulogise my character and my conduct; for the assent which you have given to the same; and for the distinguished honour which you have conferred upon me this day, I really know not how to thank you.

“To say that I was ignorant that you approved my exertions during the delivery of my course of lectures



would breathe a spirit of hypocrisy, because you have always evinced it in the most unequivocal manner; but that I should ever have received a reward like this was as foreign from my expectations as the idea that I ever deserved it.

““ But, gentlemen, if I have been so fortunate as to give you satisfaction, I cannot take the *eclât* to my individual merit, for I received the ablest assistance from my professional friends. In the introductory and concluding lectures to my course I publicly acknowledged the obligation under which I must ever feel myself to Mr. Ransome<sup>1</sup> and Mr. Ainsworth, for kindly favouring me with the loan of their valuable museums; museums containing preparations admirably calculated to illustrate the subjects of our anatomical and physiological course; and to other medical friends am I indebted for valuable suggestions, which I availed myself of; therefore you are not only indebted to *me* for the amusement and advantage which you have derived from an attendance at my lectures.

““ The objects which I aimed at were—first, to give satisfaction to those medical gentlemen who sanctioned my undertaking; secondly, to do away with the idle prejudice that anatomy and physiology are exclusively professional studies. I hope, gentlemen, that I have convinced you that they are branches of general knowledge, and not limited in their utility to the extension and improvement of the healing art.

““ And thirdly, I endeavoured to impress on the minds of students in the profession that anatomy and physiology are the basis of medicine and surgery, and that without them no man can practise either the one or the other upon sound and enlightened principles; if I succeeded in these objects, the aim of my ambition is achieved. It is peculiarly gratifying to my feelings to see so many gentlemen present to sanction the proceedings of this day, and amongst them medical men my seniors in practice, and in years. Those gentlemen are under no obligation to me, for although they did me the honour of an occasional attendance at

<sup>1</sup> A well-known and much-respected surgeon in Manchester, grandfather of the present Dr. Arthur Ransome.



my lectures, the compliment was to *me*, for it was not in my power to give them any information.

“ But it is flattering in the extreme to have this cup put into my hands by gentlemen whom I may have benefited. If they are the organs of presentation, under a conviction that I have done so, I receive the intention as an additional reward, for which I fear I have rendered no equivalent service. But, gentlemen, you must take the will for the deed, with this promise, that should we meet again during the ensuing winter, in the same relation to each other as we did during the past, it shall be my utmost endeavour to bring the will and deed to a closer connexion than they were in my first essay as a public lecturer.

“ Gentlemen, allow me to embrace this opportunity of thanking you for the manner in which you have always encouraged me. Your encouragement has instigated me to exertion; it was irresistible, and I must add, that if I receive as much from future classes as I have done from my first, it will be my pride and ambition to continue a public lecturer to the latest period of my life.

“ Gentlemen, I accept your handsome, your elegant present, with many, very many thanks; not, however, as a testimony of my own merit, but as a token of your esteem. As such you may depend upon it, it shall occupy a distinguished situation in my house, where it shall daily renew the impression which I now most forcibly feel, namely, that I may rank you, my *first-class men*, amongst the best of my patrons and my friends. How encouraging this emblem of your respect will be to me my future labours shall tell. That I am not altogether undeserving of your good opinion I hope by my future conduct to convince you; and the same too, will, I trust evince the sincerity of my gratitude.

“ From my heart I wish health, happiness, prosperity, and long life to each of you. To those gentlemen who are out of the profession I hope to be ever linked by the securest bonds of friendship. Towards my medical brethren I will ever conduct myself with such strict devotedness to honour, integrity, and proper feeling, as will entitle me to their confidence and esteem; and to my junior medical



friends, those whom I may more correctly call my pupils, I will ever be a friend, and, to the best of my ability, an instructor.’”

It may well be believed how deeply gratifying to so young a man such a substantial mark of appreciation of his intellectual labours must have been, received as it was from many who were men of science and information, and who were much older than himself; and we find the following comment upon it in Mr. Turner’s diary:—

‘This testimony of approbation on the part of my *first-class* men will stimulate me to extra exertion in order to merit their increasing respect and approval.’

No idle resolution was expressed by Mr. Turner in these words, but one which he energetically carried out. Increased exertion did indeed follow, and resulted in the establishment of the Manchester Royal School of Medicine, which will form the subject of our next chapter.



## CHAPTER VIII.

MR. TURNER'S VIEWS UPON THE STANDARD OF ATTAINMENT TO WHICH THOSE ENGAGED IN THE MEDICAL PROFESSION SHOULD SEEK TO RISE—THE FIRST SCHOOL OF MEDICINE EVER ESTABLISHED IN THE PROVINCES OPENED BY MR. TURNER IN MANCHESTER, IN 1824, AND FULLY ORGANISED IN THE YEAR FOLLOWING—CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE LEADING MEN OF VARIOUS COLLEGES.

AN Essay upon medical education, written by Mr. Turner in the year 1817, showing how very early in his professional career his attention was directed to this important theme, has been alluded to in a previous chapter; and, with advancing years, a still greater and ever-deepening interest was taken by him in this subject. The earnestness of his own student life, and his determined pursuit of knowledge, had enabled him (as the preceding pages have testified) to make the utmost use of all the educational advantages which he personally enjoyed, and to rise above all those impediments which the student of his day had to contend against.

But his own victory over hindering circumstances had not blinded him to the defects of the medical educational system existing at that time. He felt that a far more extensive acquaintance with general science ought to be sought after than that which was attained by most young men who were entering the profession; that the means for acquiring it ought to be more largely placed within their reach; and that if it was to be acquired the time of their apprenticeship must be far more energetically employed than his own personal observation of ordinary student life could allow him to feel was generally the case.

Mr. Turner's views upon this important subject will be, however, better conveyed in his own words:—



‘When a student looks into the elaborate works of Buffon, Linnæus, Blumenbach, Cuvier, and a host of modern naturalists, he is awed by the extent of the acquirements of their authors, and fears to enter the same field of research from the overwhelming labour which its exploration seemed to have required. . . . .

‘But I am of opinion that all men who are ambitious to become eminent in the medical profession should make themselves acquainted with those general principles out of which spring the innumerable modifications which exist in animal bodies, from the zoophyte, which occupies the lowest link in the chain of animals, upwards to man.

‘Many of the most simple modifications referred to, cannot be understood without a knowledge of general principles; and even with this knowledge we are sometimes perplexed in deciphering them.

‘In all the works of nature we find that the great object aimed at is the adaptation of means to ends; and that in animal life this is regulated according to the local and functional conditions of the animal.

‘Illustrations of this fact will readily occur to us, when we reflect on the differences required according to the medium in which the animal lives, the food on which it feeds, and other circumstances which are natural to it. To give a fish lungs would be superfluous; and from breathing by means of gills, as a fish does, to give it a double heart would be a needless bestowal of means.

‘The principle observed in reference to alimentation is most rigorously generalised, for not only have the carnivora, amongst the mammalia, a strong muscular stomach and a short alimentary canal, but the same scheme is followed up in the dragon (or flesh) fly; and the peculiarity of a capacious stomach and long intestines, as found in the herbivorous quadrupeds, exists also in vegetable feeders of the insect order.

‘There is no inconsistency in nature; to suppose it, would be to impugn the wisdom of the Creator. No one will presume to deny that the study of the organisation of animals is one of the most striking clues to their nature



and habits; whence it was wise in Cuvier to base his classification on structures, a principle first laid down by Aristotle.

‘It is doubtless true, as the great French naturalist alluded to has related in his “*Recherches sur les Ossemens Fossiles de Quadrupèdes*,” that every organised being consists of parts which correspond mutually, and which concur by means of reciprocal influences in the production of a common end; no one part can change without the others being modified; and consequently, each taken separately, indicates all the others. Thus, if the intestines of an animal are adapted by their organisation to digest flesh, and that in a recent state, the jaws must be constructed for devouring prey, the claws for seizing and tearing it, the teeth for dividing and lacerating its flesh, the whole apparatus of moving powers for pursuing and overtaking it, the organs of sense for perceiving it at a distance.

‘Nature must, moreover, implant in the brain an impulse or instinct leading such a creature to conceal itself, and to lie in wait for its victims.

‘Such are the general conditions of the carnivorous regimen; every flesh-devouring animal unites them necessarily, for its species could not otherwise subsist.

‘But, besides these general conditions, there are subordinate ones relating to the size, the species, and the abode of the prey; and each of these secondary conditions gives rise to differences of detail in the forms which result from the general laws. Hence, not only the class, but the order, the genus, and even the species is expressed in the form of each part. . . . .

‘Dr. Mason Good alludes forcibly to the frequent result of ignorance in comparative anatomy and physiology—namely, that it leads men to conceive that the system, or mode of operation actually before them, is the only system that could have been devised for producing the effect exhibited; instead of which the vast variety of systems or modes of operation evinced in the structure of different animals, by means of which the very same result is accomplished, prove incontrovertibly that the great Author of Nature, in employing one system rather than another, does



not employ it because it is the only system present to His unlimited survey, or the only system that could answer the end proposed, but merely that out of an infinite variety of systems, all equally competent, and equally present, He must necessarily make a choice, and can only employ one of them at one time, and for one purpose.

‘I am tempted to pause here to ask the question, how is it possible for anyone who studies zootomy, and the laws of organisation and functions, to refuse his assent to the fact, which has been so recently and ably impressed upon us by the authors of the different Bridgewater Treatises, that all the works of nature evince design ; that there is as much to admire in the structure and economy of animals, as in man ; and indeed that the great superiority of man in his animal nature, is more presumptive than real.

‘The extent of the rational faculty in man certainly renders his pursuits more enlightened, subdues his inordinate passions, and checks his instincts and natural propensities, in which respects we may consider ourselves as raised above the brute creation ; but it cannot be doubted that animals have instincts in common with ourselves, and emanating doubtless from the same source. In animals, as in man, instincts frequently assume the character of affections. Whewell observes : “The love of offspring, of home, of companions, is often displayed by animals in a way that cannot fail to strike the most indifferent observer.” The seat, however, of each peculiar instinct is, like that of each faculty of the mind, involved in obscurity, and will, I think, remain so to the remotest ages of time ; for however well understood the structure of the nervous system may be, the seats of the faculties will never be determined in so perfect and positive a manner as to satisfy the purposes of true psychology ; although some connected with them may be said to be attained, and even established on the basis of admitted truth.’

We have previously remarked how deeply Mr. Turner felt that if students of medicine and surgery were ever to acquire the extensive range of information which they ought to possess, and which the above statement indicates,



a very diligent use must be made by them of the time of their apprenticeship, and the conviction deepened in his mind that far greater facilities ought to be afforded to them for gaining the required scientific knowledge than were usually presented by the circumstances surrounding them. The course of lectures on the 'Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology of the Human Body,' in the rooms of the Literary and Philosophical Society, which had met with so gratifying a reception, was followed by several other similar courses; and in 1824 Mr. Turner delivered an address before a large number of persons, in which he developed a plan formed by him for the establishment of a preparatory school of medicine and surgery in Manchester; for he had now become thoroughly convinced that the only way in which existing deficiencies in early medical training could be supplied, would be to organise such schools in the provinces.

The address was well received, and in October 1824 Mr. Turner engaged and opened a suitable building in Pine Street, York Street, and was joined by the late Dr. (then Mr.) Dalton, who delivered a course of lectures on Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Mr. Turner continuing to lecture as heretofore.

A Medico-Chirurgical Society for students was established, opportunity for dissection was afforded, examinations and prize essays were instituted, and a medical library was opened.

In 1825 the school was thoroughly organised; but before entering into further particulars, it will be well to make the reader acquainted with the previous labours of men of science in Manchester, as lecturers upon anatomy.

For many years detached courses of medical lectures had been delivered in Bristol and Liverpool, as well as in Manchester; but they were not sufficient to qualify for examination at the Royal College of Surgeons, either in London or Edinburgh.

The eminent surgeon Mr. Charles White appears to have been the first to exert his talents in this way in Manchester; and he was followed by Dr. White, Mr. Gibson, Dr. Roget, Mr. Ransome, Mr. Ainsworth, and the late



Mr. Jordan, who commenced a course of lectures upon anatomy in 1817. His certificates were recognised by the College of Surgeons in London, which cannot be regarded otherwise than as a very high compliment to his ability as a teacher.

Still it was an *anatomical* class alone, and as such had no claim to be considered in any other light, as for all the additional branches of professional education, his pupils were still compelled to go up to London, and attend the usual courses of lectures there.

The school opened by Mr. Turner in Pine Street, on the contrary (though at first incomplete), quickly supplied information upon every subject of study with which it was necessary that young men should become conversant, and indeed so rapidly, that in the year 1825 every vacant professorial chair in the school was filled, Mr. Turner reserving to himself that of anatomy; but having invited the gentlemen whose names will now be given (and the subjects undertaken by each) to join him as lecturers:

Dr. J. L. Bardsley (now Sir James Bardsley), on the Principles and Practice of *Materia Medica*.

Mr. Ransome—Surgery.

Mr. Dalton—Chemistry.

Mr. Kinder Wood—Midwifery.

Mr. Thomson—Botany.

Anatomical demonstrations were also supplied by Mr. Turner until 1827, when his place was taken by Mr. Guest, and Mr. Joseph Ransome.

In addition to the above list Mr. Ollier was appointed lecturer on Medical Jurisprudence in 1833, and in the same year the late lamented Mr. Hunt (whose connection with the school extended over a period of more than forty years, and in whose removal a great loss has been sustained) commenced a course of lectures on the ‘Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology of the Eye.’

The extent of Mr. Turner’s intellectual labours at this time was considerable. The course of lectures commenced by him on October 13, 1823, and which, as already mentioned, numbered seventy, was extended until the following April. In November 1824 his work entitled



‘System of Medico-Chirurgical Education’ appeared; and being favourably received, a second edition was prepared in 1825, in the autumn of which year Mr. Turner’s work on the Arterial System was also published.

Previous to the opening of the School of Medicine in 1825 an address was delivered by Mr. Turner to a numerous audience of friends and students; and a part of this address will now be given:—

‘Permit me, gentlemen, to detain you a little longer, in order again to develope my plan for the formation of a school of medicine and surgery in Manchester, a scheme in which I take the warmest interest.

‘Last year, when I had the honour of addressing you in this place, I occupied a little of your attention on this subject; but as I wished to put my plan to the test of experiment, I refrained from urging my case, and from asking in a definite manner the favour of your assistance.

‘The advantages of preparatory education to students in medicine and surgery, and the error and great loss of time in devoting the whole period of a youth’s apprenticeship to the art of dispensing medicine, are too obvious to require comment. In a profession where the extent of knowledge required for the safe and successful practice of it, is almost unbounded, it is imperative that no time should be mis-spent. This fact I wish most forcibly to impress on the minds of my young medical friends, because it is too often conjectured that the period of apprenticeship is of no value, and consequently it is too often passed over without much profit. Permit me to undeceive you in this opinion, and to assure you that it is the most important period of your education; for in proportion to the time and attention you pay to professional subjects now, will be the extent of your knowledge hereafter. If you neglect to lay the foundation you will find, when the time comes to raise the superstructure, that your basis is so sandy as to discourage you in your proceedings; and though melancholy the fact, it is as true as melancholy, that students have gone to London with a view to complete their studies without any adequate preparation; and



finding that the difficulties were almost insurmountable, they have given up their profession in disgust. On the other hand, young men who have had the advantages of elementary instruction have entered on their studies at the superior schools with avidity and success.

‘The plan which I proposed last winter, with a view to supply the advantages of preparatory education, and to avert the evils inseparable from the want of it, consisted in the delivery of lectures on anatomy, physiology, chemistry, midwifery, and the auxiliary branches to medicine and surgery.

‘In order to point out the application of anatomy and physiology to the principles and practice of medicine and surgery I have for three years delivered a course of lectures annually, which course has been of from five to six months’ duration.

‘To make students practical anatomists I have not merely limited my instruction to the demonstration of organs in the class-room, but have afforded opportunities for dissection, for it is by dissection only that the student can gain that minute acquaintance with parts which is necessary for practical purposes. It is only by researches leisurely conducted, and by the use of his own knife, that he can determine where he may use the scalpel in the living body with freedom, and without fear of dangerous consequences, and when to cut would be to kill his patient. Lectures are extremely useful as giving you general and connected views, and as guiding you in the work; but much more is necessary, and that much more can only be acquired by dissecting for yourselves.

‘The means of dissection which our school affords gives to it a superiority over the schools of London and Edinburgh. We have never wanted the means: they have.<sup>1</sup> My pupils have dissected until they grew tired of it; the London and Edinburgh pupils have grown tired and disgusted from the want of it. It must be so when young men go to London and crowd those places, entirely ignorant of anatomy, for the supply is not adequate to the

<sup>1</sup> The passing of the Anatomy Bill has, of course, changed the state of things existing when this address was delivered.



want. The facility of dissections (for a small number of students) in large provincial towns, is an argument which I would employ in favour of the establishment of provincial schools: as it has been, students have left London and Edinburgh for Paris and Dublin, where the means can be easily obtained. Provincial schools will then, I believe, prevent such desertions, and therefore will prove the props to our universities. Students *must* dissect; and if they cannot dissect at home, they must go elsewhere.

‘However necessary anatomy and physiology are to the medical student, it is quite clear that they do not comprehend all. Chemistry is a very important science, for without it we should not be able to explain many of the phenomena which occur in health and disease. Pharmacy without chemistry would do more harm than good, as our ignorance would lead us to bring together incompatible substances, which would render the operation inert, if not injurious. To a preparatory school, then, elementary lectures on chemistry are indispensable.

‘Last year I was joined by Mr. Dalton, a man so well known as to require no panegyric from me on his philosophical attainments. He delivered a course of lectures on Pharmaceutical Chemistry, which gave general satisfaction. This year Mr. Dalton will repeat his course, with such alterations and improvements, as experience in the particular application of chemistry to medicine and surgery, may have suggested to him.

‘It was a desideratum that we should have in connection with our lectures on medicine, surgery, and the auxiliary sciences, a course of lectures on the theory and practice of midwifery. Mr. Kinder Wood, who has already delivered three courses, will early in the ensuing month (November) give a more extended view of this science than he has hitherto done; and, from his extensive practice, both public and private, and his literary and medical attainments, you have a right to expect much from him, and I am quite sure you will not be disappointed.

‘In addition to the delivery of lectures on the various medical sciences, there are other objects which ought to be included in our plan.



‘First, *catechetical instruction*, which is useful in riveting the attendance and attention of the pupils at the lectures, and in correcting any erroneous notions or constructions of the words of the lecturer.

‘Secondly, *a medical society for students*. Last year I proposed to my pupils that they should form themselves into a society, which should be denominated “The Students’ Society for the Cultivation of Medico-Chirurgical Knowledge.” The object of it was to give the students an opportunity of meeting weekly, for the purposes of familiar conversation, and the reading of papers on medical subjects. In connection with this society I proposed that a library should be formed, consisting of works on medicine, surgery, and the auxiliary sciences; this, I thought, would have the effect of cementing the members, by giving facilities to the means of reading without incurring much expense. I am happy to inform you that both these measures have been carried into effect. At the society, last winter, many interesting papers were read; and in connection with it, is a library consisting of a great number of useful elementary books. I must here compliment my pupils on their zeal, and must not forget to thank many practitioners of the town who have kindly made donations to the library.

‘Thirdly, to stir up emulation amongst the students, which we know is the most powerful incentive to industry and study, I proposed *prizes in books*, for essays on proposed subjects. One of the prize questions last year has been contended for, and the prize will be immediately awarded.

‘These, then, gentlemen, are the objects which my plan comprehends. I will recapitulate them:—First, Lectures on the medical sciences; secondly, catechetical instruction; thirdly, a society for students, with a library; fourthly, prize essays, &c. They are all accomplishable. In addition to these advantages, let us look around our town for more. We have an Infirmary, not to be surpassed for the means of instruction, and we have other valuable medical institutions. What town, then, can aspire to the privilege of a medical school with



such probability of success as Manchester? There is only one medical school in England. In Scotland, Ireland, and on the Continent there are several. We have our Literary and Philosophical Institutions, we have our Mechanics' Institution; ought we, then, to be backward in endeavouring to form a school for the cultivation of those sciences which have the most direct influence on the happiness of mankind?

'There are some questions which you will naturally be disposed to ask me, viz.: first, will the school be recognised by the Colleges? Secondly, how is it to be supported?

'In reply to the first question I have the pleasure to inform you that we have every sanction that the laws of Colleges can confer; and if we wished more, these laws were not made to exist for ever, and therefore, by a proper representation of their injurious tendency, they would immediately be repealed. Legislative interference is never more active than when it has for its object the overthrow of monopoly; and if one kind of monopoly is worse than another, it is the monopoly of science, or the art and privileges of teaching. If we cramp the means of instruction we limit its usefulness. Give the means, and they will be sought after, for the act of seeking is inseparable from the hope of finding.

'But I am happy to add, gentlemen, that we have not much to contend with on this score; the opposition which might on some accounts have been expected from the Colleges of London and Edinburgh has not been made. This I say unequivocally with respect to the College of Apothecaries, London, and the College of Edinburgh. The Company of Apothecaries receive our certificates of lectures and our certificates of attendance at our Infirmary and public institutions; and as it is indispensable that every student should undergo an examination at the Apothecaries' Hall before he can begin to practise, much time is saved him. With respect to the College of Surgeons of London, I addressed a letter to them on the subject of our projected school, soon after which (having occasion to go to town) I made a personal application to



the President and other leading men of the College. They expressed a high sense of the privileges which students enjoyed in Manchester, and that there was no town that had a better right to put in its claim for the College privileges; but as a law had been passed (which, by the bye, was truly a *bye* one) that no certificates could be received excepting from certain lecturers in London, they could not well depart from it in favour of Manchester; however, they added in conclusion, "As you were a member of the College, and a lecturer before this law passed, we promise to consider your certificates as highly respectable."

'With regard to the College of Edinburgh, I expressly paid a visit to that city in order to put in our claim to be considered as a medical school. No objection was started by any of the members, but it was necessary to address the body of members through the President; and I have here to acknowledge the extreme liberality and promptitude shown by that learned body.

'It is, perhaps, necessary for me to apologise for taking up your time in a thing which may not interest the whole of my auditors; but, as it would have been better for me to have left the business alone than to do it imperfectly, I must claim your indulgence a few moments longer, that you may judge from written documents the grounds upon which I rest my hope of success.

'On January 9 of the present year I addressed a letter to the College of Edinburgh.'

The letter alluded to by Mr. Turner is the following:—

'To the President, Officers, and Members of the Royal  
College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

'Gentlemen,—I beg most respectfully to solicit the favour of your giving due consideration to the request herein contained.

'During three years I have given (under the sanction of the physicians and surgeons of the Infirmary) regular instruction in anatomy, physiology, and other sciences, in their application to medicine and surgery.



‘My plan of education will be learnt by the syllabus and “*Outlines of a System,*” &c. herewith sent, and which I flatter myself will be found to contain the elementary matter of a course of medical studies.

‘Mr. Dalton, F.R.S., author of the “*Atomic Theory,*” and President of the Literary and Philosophical Society of this town, is now engaged in delivering, in my theatre, a course of lectures on Pharmaceutical Chemistry. This course and my own are attended by a numerous class of students.

‘I beg to annex an account of the hospitals in Manchester, from which the students of medicine and surgery can derive the most important advantages. Our Infirmary is a very extensive establishment, and I cannot better convince you of it than by giving the following extracts from the last annual report of St. Bartholomew’s and St. Thomas’s Hospital (two of the largest establishments in London); and then subjoining an extract taken from the last annual report of our own institution:—

“St. Bartholomew’s Hospital: under care (total number), 10,312, of which casualties 1,600. St. Thomas’s Hospital: under care, 10,984, of which casualties not mentioned.

“Manchester Infirmary: under care (last year), 12,600, of which casualties 2,245.”

‘It is not necessary to comment on the above statement.

‘The other public institutions in the town are a Dispensary, Fever Hospital, Town’s Hospital, connected with the workhouse; Lying-in Hospital, an Eye Institution, and a Lock Hospital.

‘It is upon these grounds, gentlemen, that I presume to ask your compliance with the following request, namely:—

‘That our certificates may be received by the Court of Examiners of your Royal College, as entitling the student to the same privileges as the certificates granted by the London lecturers; or, if it be incompatible with the laws of the College to grant the above request, that they may be considered as respectable testimonials, and worthy of



other privileges which your College may have the power to confer.

‘You will conclude from the statement given that there is no provincial town which offers so many advantages to the medical student; and, consequently, no other town that can so justly presume to solicit the honour of being recognised by the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

‘I subscribe myself, Gentlemen, with much respect,

‘Your most obedient servant,

‘THOMAS TURNER.’

In reply to this communication, one of the leading members of the College addressed the following letter to Mr. Turner:—

‘St. Andrew’s Square, Feb. 2, 1825.

‘My dear Sir,— . . . . . My object in addressing you is to state that the subject referred to in your last communication to me was laid before our College this day.

‘I understand from my father that your petition met with a most gratifying reception from the members of the College, and that a committee was appointed to correspond with you.

‘You will, therefore, no doubt receive an official letter ere long, which will state to you all the circumstances more fully than I am able to do.

‘You may be gratified by learning that a very kindly feeling appears to be entertained for you by the members of the College in general, and that they seem to be fully aware of the advantages which will accrue to our school of surgery by acceding to your wishes. . . . .

‘I remain, yours sincerely,

‘BENJAMIN BELL.’

This letter was succeeded by a favourable answer from the President, Dr. Hay, making, however, certain enquiries, in reply to which Mr. Turner wrote:—



‘To Dr. Hay, President of the Royal College of  
Surgeons, Edinburgh.

‘Feb. 24, 1825.

‘Dear Sir,—Your kind letter reached me a few days back, and I am happy to find by it that the Royal College are disposed to honour me so far as to accede to my request, provided the answer to the interrogatories made by you be satisfactory. In the first place, I possess the diploma which your regulations state as necessary to entitle me to be considered by your College as a teacher; and secondly, my courses of lectures have been hitherto of about six months’ duration.

‘The course in which I am at present engaged was commenced in November, and will not be terminated before the latter part of April. The other courses, delivered in connection with the school, shall correspond in extent, &c. with those delivered at Edinburgh.

‘Hoping soon to hear from you again officially, accept my best thanks for your good wishes, and believe me, dear Sir,

‘Your obedient and obliged servant,

‘THOS. TURNER.’

The concluding letter of this correspondence, addressed by the President to Mr. Turner, and granting the privileges asked for, will now be given:—

‘Edinburgh, March 7, 1825.

‘Dear Sir,—Your letter of February 24 was laid before a meeting of the College held on the 1st instant. The College have agreed that your own lectures, as being of nearly six months’ duration, shall be received as a course of anatomy, qualifying for their diploma; and in like manner that attendance for twelve months at the Hospital at Manchester, with three months of clinical lectures on the surgical cases, given by a Fellow of one of the established Colleges, shall qualify for examination; but they are unwilling to extend this privilege further until they shall be informed of the exact nature and extent of the lectures of the other teachers of medicine in Manchester.



‘Although the College do not think it advisable to go beyond what I have now stated, I am confident that if the courses of the lectures, on the other subjects, be of the same extent as your own, correspond in nature with those at Edinburgh, and are delivered by Fellows of the established Colleges, they will be recognised by the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

‘I remain, dear Sir, yours truly,  
‘DAVID HAY.’

Having laid these letters before the meeting, Mr. Turner concluded his address as follows:—

‘Thus, then, gentlemen, we have a sufficient guarantee for the respectability of our teachers, as they must be in possession of certain diplomas ere their lectures can be recognised, or ere they can take a part in the establishment of a medical school.

‘All the qualifications required can be granted. I would ask, then, what more remains to be done, excepting the exercise of industry on our side, and encouragement on yours?

‘By and bye we shall hope to make an appeal to the public; and we doubt not, from what experience has taught us, that our appeal will be favourably received.

‘This leads me to the second question—How is the institution to be supported?

‘I would say, not from the private purses of any but those who will derive advantage from it; the thing will support itself.

‘We must, however, be beholden to the public for placing us on a respectable footing; such as will do Manchester credit.

‘From what this town has already done for the promotion of literature, science, and the arts, we may confidently assure ourselves that it will do more.

‘There is a praiseworthy pride now existing amongst the inhabitants of this populous district to raise Manchester as high in the estimation of the scientific world, as her manufactures already have done in the estimation of the commercial public; and we have always found that



institutions established with a view to the public good, have been fostered and supported with a degree of liberality which reflected honour on our town. I offer my plan, to ask your assistance, with a mixed feeling of distrust and confidence: with distrust, from knowing the great disproportion between my own qualifications and the object of my ambition; with confidence, from knowing that I have able supporters in my professional brethren, and that I have *you* as my friends.

‘So far as I am individually concerned I promise my exertions, my zeal, my perseverance; and lastly, my resolve not to relax my efforts until experience may prove that the scheme is impracticable. I shall then yield, and though with reluctance, still with the satisfaction that I have done my duty.’

Mr. Turner’s anxiety that all the certificates granted by the lecturers of the Pine Street school should be recognised by the leading Colleges, and the importance of their being so recognised, will be thoroughly appreciated by the reader; and in 1826 the following letter was addressed by him to Sir W. Blizard, Chairman of the Court of Examiners of the Royal College of Surgeons, in reference to the bye-law mentioned in the foregoing address:—

‘Manchester, Aug. 22, 1826.

‘Sir,—I feel encouraged by the friendly letter you honoured me with in the autumn of last year to take the liberty of writing to thank you for the flattering notice you were pleased to take of my “*Outlines of a System of Medico-Chirurgical Education,*” published in November 1824; and to offer you my best acknowledgments for the kind intention you expressed in your letter to furnish me, “from your little store of recollections” (as you have modestly written), with some materials for my then projected work on the “*Practical Study of the Arterial Anastomoses.*” The publication has since appeared, and I did myself the honour of sending you a copy for perusal.

‘To know that this second attempt to assist the medical



student, and to elucidate some obscure points connected with aneurism and hæmorrhage, has equally met with your approbation, will be to me a source of great gratification; and should a second edition be called for, it will be very advantageous to my work to add such matter as (at your convenience) you may be pleased to favour me with.

‘At an interview which I had the honour of having with you about a year and a half ago, for the purpose of ascertaining whether my certificates of anatomy and physiology would qualify for examination, you referred me to a regulation which had been enacted a short time before, and consequently expressed a doubt whether my request could be consistently acceded to. On remarking that I was a member of the Royal College, and a lecturer on anatomy and physiology, prior to the passing of the regulation; that the law doubtless was meant to be prospective, and not retrospective in its operation, you encouraged me to believe that as the Court of Examiners were aware of the superior advantages enjoyed by the medical students educated at our Infirmary, that my certificates should be looked upon as highly respectable, and consequently should have weight with the College. I presume to indulge the hope, therefore, that they are received by the Court; but, feeling very desirous of being assured upon this point, I take the liberty of enclosing to you, as the Chairman, my respectful solicitation from the Court of a full acquiescence to my request. . . . .

‘All those who are anxious to maintain the respectability of the surgical profession, and the superior knowledge of its members, must see the wisdom of the Court in insisting upon proofs of qualification to teach; I therefore beg to transmit a testimonial granted to me by the physicians and surgeons of the Infirmary of this town, who know me as a teacher, and who have done me the honour of personally attending my lectures and demonstrations during the last four years.

‘The College of Surgeons of Edinburgh have done me the honour to admit my certificates. . . . .

‘Permit me, in conclusion, to request the favour of



your laying the enclosed papers before the Court of Examiners, for their consideration, and allow me to subscribe myself,

‘Yours, &c.,  
‘THOS. TURNER.’

The answer returned from the Court of Examiners to the above appeal was not immediately satisfactory, some difficulties still existing as to a change in rules laid down. But before the expiration of the succeeding twelve months the certificates of some of the lecturers were recognised; and to a large extent through Sir Astley Cooper’s instrumentality, all the remaining impediments were finally swept away, and a full recognition of all the certificates of the various lecturers was granted by the College of Surgeons.

The following letter was addressed by Mr. Turner to Sir James MacGrigor on August 11, 1827:—

‘Sir,—On behalf of my fellow-lecturers and myself I presume to address you, as Director-General of the Medical Department of the Army and Navy, to solicit the honour of your receiving certificates of attendance on the lectures of the Manchester School of Medicine and Surgery, as testimonials of medical education, and as qualification for examination for military and naval service.

‘I have taken the liberty of enclosing a prospectus for your perusal, and it may not be irrelevant to state that I have been five years a lecturer on Anatomy and Physiology; that the other lecturers have long been in the habit of instructing in the other branches of medical science; that our certificates are accepted at the Apothecaries’ Hall, at the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, and some of them at the Royal College of Surgeons of London; and that if you require other evidence of our competency to teach, I shall do myself the honour of transmitting to you a certificate to that effect, signed by the physicians and surgeons of the Manchester Infirmary, Dispensary, and Fever wards.



‘Trusting you will be pleased to grant our request, I beg most respectfully to subscribe myself, Sir,

‘Your very obedient servant,

‘THOS. TURNER.

‘To Sir James MacGrigor, M.D.’

This letter was acknowledged in the following satisfactory answer:—

‘Brighton, Aug. 20, 1827.

‘Sir,—I had the honour to receive your letter of the 11th, and have much pleasure in assuring you that Sir William Franklin, my colleague, and myself, will readily receive the testimonials of yourself, and the respectable gentlemen whose names are in the printed prospectus, as qualifications for gentlemen who are candidates for commission in the medical department of the army.

‘I am not ignorant of the value of the Manchester Infirmary as a practical School of Medicine and Surgery. I have more than once visited it, and I rejoice much to learn that distinct courses of clinical lectures in surgery, as well as in medicine, are about to be delivered there.

‘I have the honour to be, Sir,

‘Your most obedient servant,

‘Thos. Turner, Esq.’

‘JAMES MACGRIGOR.

We shall now be compelled to retrace our steps a little, and lay before the reader an appeal, addressed by Mr. Turner to the public, in the autumn of 1825, upon the subject of Provincial Medical School Education, as it powerfully embodies the views which he entertained. It appeared in the form of a pamphlet, and was inscribed to Sir Robert Peel; and the most interesting and important parts of this appeal will occupy the pages of the next chapter. So long a time has elapsed since its publication, that it will be new to almost every reader whose eyes may now rest upon the pages of this work; and it is hoped therefore, that no apology will be requisite for its introduction, though indulgence must be requested for a certain amount of unavoidable repetition.



## CHAPTER IX.

MR. TURNER'S VIEWS UPON MEDICAL EDUCATION, AS EXPRESSED BY  
HIM IN A PAMPHLET ISSUED IN THE YEAR 1825.

‘In the present day, a period distinguished by cultivation of intellect and the progress of enterprise, the attention of all classes of men is directed to the best means of furnishing, to every description of persons, the information necessary to the course of life they desire to follow. The mechanic and artisan will soon cease to be mere automatons in their respective employments, as the institutions established in all large towns will diffuse amongst them the knowledge which will enable them to understand, and work upon, the scientific principles of their occupation. With the progress of improvement amongst the lower orders, the intellectual improvement of the higher classes of society must keep pace: it is incumbent therefore on the latter as a duty, at the same time that they give encouragement to the one, not to let the other be forgotten; and not to withhold their sanction from such establishments as are calculated to maintain their superiority as it has hitherto existed, and which, for the welfare of the community, ought strenuously to be upheld. I accord in the opinion that to give to working mechanics an acquaintance with the sciences connected with their trade sufficient to enable them to apply their knowledge in the exercise of it, is highly praiseworthy and, in a national point of view, extremely important; but we must look to the effects of it on the state of society, unless accompanied by equivalent advantages enjoyed on the part of those who are intended to fill situations in a higher station of life.

‘To cultivate, in the more respectable inhabitants of



this populous town and neighbourhood, a taste for the superior accomplishments, and to create in them an interest for literary and philosophical pursuits, is the end of the Literary and Philosophical Society established here; and we shall presently possess a scientific institution that will scarcely fail to reflect honour on our town.

‘For the due qualification of gentlemen to become members of the learned professions, certain means have always been provided; and for the professions of theology and law they are still adequate, since these have not been materially changed by the character of the times. But in our own profession the means are *not* adequate to the ends to which they are directed, a more extensive grasp of knowledge being necessary for the safe and successful practice of it, than is in the power of many of its members to obtain. To give, then, to the medical student the power to acquire competency to the discharge of his important duties, is a desideratum which we should endeavour to supply. . . . . It is an evil replete with mischievous consequences that, whilst the extension of general knowledge should be so much the aim of public exertion, the medical student is still limited to the same resources which have existed almost from time immemorial. It is the duty of members of the medical profession to expose this error, and it is the interest of all to correct it.

‘The present state of the medical profession is a subject in which none can be otherwise than deeply concerned. A profession to which are attached responsibilities of the highest character has a just claim to enquiry, and every man should make it a part of his business to ascertain whether the individual in whom he reposes his confidence has been duly and regularly educated. A modern writer says: “It must strike the mind of every enlightened individual who takes a survey of the present state of the medical profession in this country, that whilst there are to be found in it some who, by their talents and intellectual attainments, reflect credit on themselves and the profession to which they belong, at the same time the *large mass* of its members is deplorably ignorant; and this we feel assured may in the majority of instances be traced to the defective



education they have had the misfortune to receive." This "defective education" arises from circumstances that can in many instances be controlled. It becomes, therefore, a duty to show how this great evil can be remedied; and to put this in the most striking point of view, I will first give a brief sketch of the elementary education of the medical student.

'The wish of a parent to bring up his son to the profession of medicine or surgery ought to be seconded by a corresponding wish on the part of the son. Family prospects and circumstances may influence a father to recommend to his child a particular pursuit in life, but those considerations should give way to a disinclination or distaste for the studies connected with it. Without a fondness for these, the student will never bestow on the acquisition of professional knowledge, the exertions which are indispensable to the accomplishment of the arduous task imposed on him; nor will such a man ever rise above mediocrity in its practice. There is no profession that requires more assiduity and application than the medical; not one where the extent of knowledge required for the successful practice of it is so unbounded; not one more interesting when the objects of it are congenial to the temper of the mind; and there is not one which, in the absence of congeniality, is so calculated to excite disgust.

'It is not my intention to say much on the information which the young gentleman who is designed for the medical profession should possess, but it will be well to enforce the necessity of a few preparatory acquirements.

'He should have a good knowledge of the Latin and Greek languages, particularly of the former. An acquaintance with the Latin language is indispensable; and as most of the terms employed in medicine, surgery, and the auxiliary sciences, are derived from the Greek, this language will give much assistance to the memory in retaining the meaning of scientific terms. But Latin and Greek are not the only tongues with which he should be familiar. From the labours of our Continental brethren we gain much useful information; hence it will be advantageous to the student to read their works, particularly



those which emanate from the French school. There are other branches of knowledge that should not be overlooked; amongst these we may class mathematics, and the elements of natural philosophy. How, and where, all these studies can be followed, are questions which do not come within my design; fortunately many of our public seminaries are so conducted as to furnish facilities for those purposes, without the necessity of incurring the expense attendant on a college education. In brief, the future medical practitioner must be liberally educated, and must be taught not to disregard any branch of useful knowledge, though the relation it may hold to the medical profession, may not be more immediate than to other pursuits in life. Every kind of information in literature, science, and the arts, may be turned to a valuable purpose, for, independently of other advantages which are sure to accrue from miscellaneous studies, they serve to enlarge the scope of the mind, and to destroy that pedantry, stiffness, and repulsive gravity which are too often associated with the medical character. Our profession has genuine dignity, and the power to command respect; but asserts no claim to those attributes, unless the members of it have such acquirements as will enable them to perform all the duties of their important calling. Dignity in physic, as Dr. Gregory properly observes, is not to be supported by a narrow and selfish spirit—by self-importance—by formality in dress and manners—or by an affectation of mystery; but by the superior learning and abilities of those who practise it, by the liberal manner of gentlemen, and by the openness and candour which disdain all artifice, which invite free enquiry, and thus boldly bid defiance to all that illiberal ridicule and abuse, to which medicine has been so much, and so long exposed. When a determination has been come to with regard to the youth's pursuit, the parent should recommend that plan of education to be adopted, which is best fitted for the attainment of the objects of that pursuit, so that his son may cultivate an early acquaintance with those branches of knowledge the most essential to the sphere of life in which he is intended to move.



‘We are to presume, then, that when a young gentleman begins his professional career, he has had the necessary classical education, and other instruction, and that he is now prepared to devote his time exclusively to the subjects of the profession he has chosen. In the study of medicine, where so much is to be learned, it is highly desirable that we should facilitate labour. In the early period of a youth’s apprenticeship, everything is drudgery, because he cannot adapt the means to the ends; it is therefore of immediate importance to conduct him into the right way, and to show that his early labours will be crowned with an abundant harvest.

‘His first studies must embrace the sciences of chemistry and botany, which are the keystones to pharmacy, and the *materia medica*. . . . . After learning the nature and properties of drugs, the student must know how to apply them to practical purposes, and the basis of this knowledge is the study of the structures and functions of the human body, and the systems of parts on which medicinal substances exert their influence. The anatomy and physiology of parts in a state of health, must precede his attempts to investigate the phenomena of disease, and the effects produced by morbid causes. But to understand certain functions, he must be acquainted with other branches of science; without the assistance of mechanics, he would be unable to determine the principles of muscular motion; without pneumatics, he would not be able to explain the beautiful process of respiration, and the physiological results of this function; without optics, he could not explain the operation of the humours of the eye on the rays of light, in their transmission through them; and without acoustics, he would be ignorant of the manner in which sound is conveyed to the sensible expansion of the auditory nerve. Mechanics, pneumatics, optics, acoustics, and other branches of natural philosophy, are thus auxiliary sciences to the study of medicine, inasmuch as they elucidate certain phenomena in the animal economy. Anatomy and physiology are the basis of pathology; without them, pathology, which refers to disease, whether of a medical or surgical character, is quackery; and as to



acquire a competent knowledge of pathology, is the ultimate aim of the student's researches, with the knowledge of these branches, on which its foundation is laid, he will complete his professional education. The question now to be answered, relates to the time when these different studies should be pursued. The first objects of the medical student's attention are chemistry, botany, pharmacy, and *materia medica*. The two former are essential to the two latter. The first year of his apprenticeship ought to be employed in gaining the elements of these sciences; having done this, the minutiae which appertain to them may be followed at a future period. In the second year, he should study the branches of natural philosophy which are more immediately connected with his professional calling. With this preparatory instruction, he becomes competent, in the third year, to attend to anatomy and physiology. In the fourth year, in addition to anatomy and physiology, he will do well to pay some attention to hospital practice. And in the fifth and last year, he should re-survey and re-study the various branches of medical science, in order to apply them to the principles of medical and surgical practice.

Unless the student is well-grounded in elementary knowledge, he will not profit much from the lectures which he hears in London, Edinburgh, or any of the superior schools, for the lectures there delivered are not purely rudimental. Every professor in these places presumes that he is addressing young men who are not tyros in the profession, but who have profited by the comparative leisure of their apprenticeship. . . . . I would, in a friendly way, then, warn the medical student against the snare which has caught so many, viz. *that the period of his apprenticeship is of no great value*. It is a gross error to suppose that the schools of London, or elsewhere, can store his brain with sufficient practical lore, without a preparation for its reception; and if he harbours this opinion, he will discover the absurdity of it, when it will be too late to rectify the consequences of so palpable a mistake. It is a truth, confirmed by experience, that the love of science increases in the same ratio as our advance-



ment in it; and it is not less true that our advancement is always in proportion to the labour we bestow in the acquisition of fundamental principles. These remarks will, I hope, serve to stimulate the student to begin his labours early; to make a diligent use of that time which is valuable *principally* to himself, and to profit from the leisure that is not likely to be interrupted by the miscellaneous occurrences to which he will be subjected in after-life. He must use his own exertions when the means of facilitating labour are given to him. Industry in acquiring knowledge will lead to fame and fortune; but the neglect of these means will plant a sting in his bosom which will torment him sorely, when the period of reflection tells him that he has mis-spent the most valuable portion of his life.

‘The preceding remarks on attendance at lectures, are more particularly applicable to the method of regulating the time of those students who reside in Manchester or its vicinity, or in any other situation where the means can be supplied; but there is a large mass of students, residing at different distances, who cannot attend to these recommendations, for want of opportunity. It is much to be feared that medical pupils living in country situations, have their knowledge limited to the art of dispensing medicine, or *at most* to that, united to an attendance on cases that they are not qualified to treat, or to profit from. The only remedy for this evil, consists in the existence of an understanding between the masters and the parents of pupils, that for one or more seasons, the student shall be allowed the privilege of taking up his abode *at the seat of instruction*. I should advise that this indulgence be granted the third year, and the pupil will then be able to give important assistance to his master, during the remainder of his engagement. Some country surgeons adopt the plan of sending their pupils to London the third or fourth winter, with a *bonâ fide* agreement that the time thus spent shall be exclusive of the term of apprenticeship; but it is to be hoped that the necessity of a departure to such a distance from home, will soon cease to be necessary, and that the pupils of Lancashire, and the adjoining counties, will have the means of improvement very near at



hand. This will lead me to the development of my plan for the formation of a School of Medicine and Surgery in this populous district, a means by which all our views of the elementary education can be accomplished.

‘The main objects which the plan should embrace will, of course, be anticipated from what has been already stated, but it will be well specifically to mention them, in addition to others which must be included.

‘1st. The delivery of lectures on the various subjects of medical science is indispensable, and these must be so arranged as to constitute a complete system of professional instruction.

‘The subjects of the lectures must be: Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Botany, *Materia Medica*, Natural Philosophy, Human and Comparative Anatomy, Human and Comparative Physiology, the Principles and Practice of Surgery, the Principles and Practice of Midwifery, and the Principles and Practice of Medicine.

‘2ndly. The means of prosecuting practical anatomy.

‘3rdly. A library of books on medicine, surgery, and the auxiliary sciences.

‘4thly. A Medico-Chirurgical Society, for the purposes of conversation, and reading papers.

‘5thly. Prize essays, or honorary rewards, for dissertations on proposed subjects.

‘To carry these objects into effect, a commodious lecture-room, private apartments, a library, and other conveniences will be required.

‘Manchester, above all other places, must be considered as the best situation for a new medical school. A town of great importance, honourably striving to rival the metropolis in many respects, and having a population greater than that of any town in England, must be selected as the best calculated for this purpose. But it is not on internal importance merely, that we ground our choice, for in addition to this circumstance, her topographical situation, and proximity to a densely populated district, are much in her favour; and if we form an estimate of medical pupils from the extent of population, Manchester and its environs, including a circuit of forty



miles, would furnish a number more than equal to that of London and forty miles about it. When we look to our public institutions for the relief of the sick; to our Infirmary, which admits annually under care 2,000 more than the largest hospital in London, exclusive of the patients admitted into our Lunatic Asylum, our Fever Hospital, our Lying-in Hospital, our Workhouse Hospitals, our Eye Institution, our Lock Hospital, &c., &c., we have a right to put in our claim as well able to furnish those requisites, which every medical school *must* possess, in order to be effective.

‘Presuming this to be accorded, we must now prove it to be of national importance that there should be another medical school in England, too much encouragement having been given to pupils to leave this country for the Continent. The restoration of peace has thrown open to us the Parisian schools, which a war of more than twenty years’ duration, had excluded from the medical student. The advantages which they offer, in some respects, are superior to those of our own schools, as the laws of France sanction what the laws of our own country interdict. In France, anatomy is known to extreme minuteness. Physiology has attained a high degree of perfection. The facilities for practical anatomy are unparalleled. The attendance on public lectures and hospital practice is without a gratuity; and admission to the public museums and libraries is free. *There* the student can be educated for a trifling sum, but in this country the medical education is highly expensive, which is in a great measure attributable to the invariable consequence of monopoly.

‘The student has advantages in Dublin superior in many respects to those which he enjoys in the English and Scotch schools. I would not say that the professors of Paris or Dublin are better qualified to teach than those of London, Edinburgh, or Glasgow, but many of them are equally learned; and this consideration, added to certain facilities which the latter places afford not, must operate in favour of emigration, and thus threaten the eminence of the schools of England and Scotland. It behoves us, then, to lend our hand to prop our institu-



tions; it is a matter of national policy that we should have an auxiliary establishment somewhere, and it is obviously a matter of right that it should be seated in a town next in importance to the metropolis itself, and which, geographically considered, may be designated the heart of the United Kingdom.

‘ We do not wish to take to ourselves college privileges, and to grant diplomas, but we hope to have the ability to prepare students for their future honours, and thus to lessen the expense and time which have hitherto been necessary in order to obtain them. If this latter advantage could not be gained either by courtesy or legislation, the institution, under its most humble pretensions, would offer to the medical student the same advantages that St. Paul’s, Westminster, Eton, and other chartered schools afford to the clerical scholar. These places do not grant ordination, but they give preparatory instruction, and confer honours, as we should do; and thus the student is rendered competent to enter on his finishing studies, with the best possible claims to future honour and eminence.

‘ It is not necessary to enumerate the many benefits that the medical student, and the community at large, will derive from the establishment which I have proposed, but I will briefly state that an advantage of no small importance, which will be engendered by it, is the feeling of emulation, which is a very active cause of improvement in science, and of advancement in those who cultivate it. The history of past ages must convince us, that improvement keeps pace with the opportunities and encouragement given to the cultivation of learning; and the same has proved that even the love of science may be suppressed, if the means of acquiring it be difficult to obtain.

‘ With respect to the influence of emulation, in promoting the progress of the student, Knox properly remarks: “ Emulation cannot be excited without rivals, and without emulation, instruction will be always a tedious, and often a fruitless labour. It is this which warms the passions on the side of all that is excellent, and often counterbalances the weight of temptations to vice and idleness. Honourable emulation is the principal spring of diligence and activity.”



‘The proposed plan appears to me to be well calculated to do much good, and therefore worthy of being adopted. It cannot fail to advance science, and to give great facilities to the medical student in the prosecution of his laborious pursuits. Talent is a gift of nature; education only directs and exercises the reasoning faculties: but to have this effect it must be governed by a regular system; its important advantages will then be secured to society; the acquisition of knowledge will become easy, and its blessings permanent. Although every medical man must at present feel deeply interested in the accomplishment of the project, there can be no doubt but that his interest will increase with the increasing proofs of its usefulness; and a similar feeling must pervade the several classes of our townsmen.

‘It is scarcely to be expected that all the objects of the school will be immediately carried into effect, but they must be begun; indeed, they have been put to the test of experiment, on a small scale, and for the beneficial effects which have resulted from them, I will venture to appeal to some of the rising members of the profession who have been educated in this neighbourhood. This foretaste encourages me to assert, that the plan is not chimerical, but fully practicable, and requires only public sanction to place it on a secure and substantial basis. Manchester herself has rapidly passed from humble beginnings to what she now is; from a humble beginning, such as our school now presents, it will, by public patronage, be raised high in the scale of usefulness. By the active co-operation of my medical brethren, and by the liberality of our townsmen and the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, I think the success of the project is certain, as there is no obstacle that may not easily be surmounted by determined perseverance.

‘I do not think it necessary to offer an apology for obtruding this pamphlet on public attention. I disdain every other feeling than the wish to be in some measure instrumental in benefiting the junior members of the profession, by placing them on a proportionate level in their acquirements with the generally improved state of society; but to do this, my efforts will be insufficient



without collateral aid. I have presumed to suggest. It may, or it may not, be the will of others to adopt the suggestions; but from what this town has already done for the promotion of literature, science, and the arts, it may confidently be expected that she will do much more.'



## CHAPTER X.

MR. TURNER'S MARRIAGE—HAPPY DOMESTIC LIFE—LETTER OF CONGRATULATION FROM MR. DUCK—CORRESPONDENCE—VIEWS UPON EDUCATION—DEATH OF MRS. RICHARD SMITH, AND ALSO OF MRS. CLARKE.

WE will now turn from Mr. Turner's professional career, to his private life, commencing with his marriage, which took place on March 3, 1826. Mrs. Turner was the daughter of James Clarke, Esquire, of Medham, near Newport, Isle of Wight, who (inheriting a very good property from his father) was brought up to no profession, and married at the early age of twenty-one.<sup>1</sup>

He was a man of very refined tastes, and devoted his abundant leisure to the pursuit of literature, and the fine arts, possessing a very decided talent for drawing, ample opportunity for the cultivation of which was, of course, afforded by the lovely scenery of the island.

Mr. Clarke was the author of several works, of which the largest, and probably the most successful, was entitled 'Corfe Castle,' and was very well written, but the only romance he ever published.

He was a lover of good men and of all that was high-toned in thought and sentiment, and an intimate friend of the late Rev. Legh Richmond, during the residence of the latter in the Isle of Wight.

<sup>1</sup> Besides other property in Newport, Mr. Clarke owned a large house in Quay Street, which attained some notoriety in consequence of its being sold by him to a French abbé, who came over to England at the time of the first Revolution, and established a school there, to which the patronage of the late Duke of Kent was extended. The boys wore a livery of blue with scarlet collars.



Mrs. James Clarke was the daughter of John Baskett, Esquire, of Wimborne, who was in practice as a medical man there, and whose grandfather was the Rev. Samuel Baskett, M.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, and afterwards vicar of Ower Moigne, and Shapwick, in Dorsetshire, where a great many of the family are interred. The name was originally spelt Basquith, but before the reign of Edward I. was changed to Baskett.

Lewens, the family residence at Wimborne, still remains, and is inhabited by descendants of the family.

Mrs. James Clarke was a very beautiful woman, and was remarkable alike for the superiority of her mind and the gentle dignity of her carriage and manners.

Among a numerous family of children Mrs. Turner was the only daughter, and largely inherited the mental qualifications and refined tastes of both her parents, which all the surroundings of her early home served to foster.

All who had the pleasure of knowing her in later life, will remember her exquisite appreciation of scenery, her love of flowers and music, and her remarkable talent in drawing—a gift of which the enjoyment did not forsake her, even when she became so much of an invalid as to be compelled to pass the winter months entirely in the house.

Her eye was very correct; and so great was the rapidity with which she sketched from nature, that one of her daughters writes:—

‘When travelling with dear mamma, if the train stopped for a few moments at a road-side station, when we were passing through beautiful scenery, she would immediately take her sketching-block (which was always close at hand) and during the three or four minutes that we were detained there produce a graphic sketch, the details of which would be so filled up afterwards from imagination and memory, that it would often become one of her most effective water-colour drawings; and thus during the summer months, and especially during the little tours in which she accompanied my dear father to the south of England, Wales, Derbyshire, or the Lakes, she would accumulate a large store of sketches, which supplied



her with ample material for producing finished water-colour drawings during the months when (from rheumatism) she was so often compelled to be a prisoner to the house.'

It was doubtless in the peaceful home of her girlhood that this thorough appreciation of all that was beautiful in nature, which was so largely developed in after-life, first showed itself and was nurtured.

Medham was beautifully situated upon an eminence, on the banks of the river Medina, and commanded a lovely prospect. But as his children grew up, Mr. Clarke decided to relinquish his residence in the Isle of Wight, and removed with his family to London, where he was living at the time of his daughter's marriage.

The event is thus noted by Mr. Turner in his diary: 'March 3, 1826.—Married; went to Oxford, Kenilworth, and Leamington, on our way home.'

But, brief though the entry is of such an important event in life, it was a marriage of no ordinary happiness which then took place, for upon each side there existed that thorough appreciation of the qualifications and character possessed by each, upon which the happiness of marriage so much depends.

Mrs. Turner sought to be her husband's intelligent companion, interested alike in his intellectual pursuits, and his philanthropic aims, making use of her talent in drawing to illustrate his lectures on physiology, and delicately arranging and mounting specimens for his microscope; and when his intellectual and professional labours were over for the day, he was always ready to admire her sketches, look at her dried plants, or praise the exquisite modelling of her wax flowers.

One shadow was, indeed, very early cast over their happy life, and this was in connection with Mrs. Turner's health, for they had been married only a year or two, when a severe attack of rheumatic fever left her ever afterwards more or less of an invalid.

The following characteristic letter was written to Mr. Turner upon the occasion of his marriage by his kind old friend Mr. Duck:—



‘Bristol, 12th month, 26, 1827.

‘My dear Turner,—I am happy to hear by my friend J. Marriss, of thy being married, and of thy continued success in practice. After a man has been twelve months a Benedick, it is rather late to congratulate him on the event; but when he has made a good choice, such congratulations are never unwelcome—they will be as heartfelt twenty years hence, as they were during the honeymoon. I am sure you will believe me, when I say I sincerely wish you all the happiness you can wish yourselves.

‘And now, my dear Turner, I have another subject of congratulation, and that is thy book reaching a second edition, and the language clear, flowing, and explicit. How does your medical school get on? We are here but little better than dead-alive, though there are some symptoms of remaining animation. Dr. Riley is now associated with Wallace . . . . . and a young man of the name of Clark, has commenced an anatomical course in King Square. The surgeons of St. Peter’s have agreed to deliver a lecture once a week, on subjects connected with surgery, without pursuing any regular plan: theory and practice of surgery, medicine, and anatomy, are taken up promiscuously. We may perhaps after a time digest it into better order. . . . . I shall be most happy to see thee and thy wife in Bristol.

‘Believe me thine truly,

‘N. DUCK.’

A letter addressed by Mr. Turner to his wife in the autumn after his marriage, and some others penned at intervals during successive years, will now be given; as they touchingly illustrate all that has been stated of the perfect union of thought and feeling subsisting between them:—

‘Monday, Aug. 28, 1826.

‘My dearest Anna,—I was in hopes that this morning would have brought me another letter from you. It was perhaps unreasonable to expect it, but I know not how it is exactly, but I never felt such fidgetation and such anxiety to hear from you as I now do. It would almost



seem as if I had some evil forebodings. That my darling Anna would not give me a moment's uneasiness I well know, and therefore it is *my own* unreasonableness that subjects me to the disappointment that I feel. Allowing, then, my dearest, that I am now morbidly sensitive respecting everything that concerns your dear mamma and yourself, do rather anticipate my hopes, than allow me to indulge them in vain. With this letter you will receive your Botanical Grammar, and I hope sincerely that your mamma is so much improved in health as to enable you to have leisure to re-study your lessons. It would be a great pity for you to forget what you have already learnt, for during the winter months we shall derive much pleasure from looking over the herbarium which you have formed, and which will be a volume of the most useful and interesting instruction.

'Now you are absent from me I frequently contrast the time when I had you all to myself with the present period, when I have nothing of you, save the image which reflection pictures. This day seven weeks, we left Manchester together for our excursion to Yorkshire; this day five weeks, we were exposed to the scorching rays of the sun on the sands at Scarborough; and, if you recollect, it was on this very day that you received the first intelligence of your dear mamma's illness, the letter announcing it being read by you with so much anxiety whilst on our way to our daily solitary and romantic ramble beyond the rocks, over which human feet had scarcely stepped before.

'Matilda, I am sorry to say, is, I fear, exceedingly unwell; she complains much of pain in her side, and looks very pale and feeble. She and Miss Barbara Barbour are spending a few days at Moss Cottage, and I hope the change will be useful to her. Mr. — and Mr. — dined there yesterday. I was invited, but did not go, not being in first-rate spirits; but feeling desirous of a walk in the evening, I went there about seven o'clock, and remained till about ten, when Mr. Connell and myself walked home. You must not, my love, expect to hear from Matilda at present; she does not seem able to write a letter. I have



no particular news to tell you, for I scarcely see anyone but in the way of my profession. My evenings I spend at home, in writing and preparing for my winter's work. I am sometimes, however, induced by a little depression in spirits to go and sup with Richard, Mr. Connell, or our friend Barbour.<sup>1</sup>

'I sent you a Manchester paper on Saturday last. You will see by it that everything remains gloomy, trade having scarcely at all improved. There never was a greater anxiety felt about commercial concerns than at the present moment. The manufactories are overstocked with goods, in consequence of the markets being glutted. What the poor are to do in the approaching winter is a question that no one can answer, further than that present circumstances augur unfavourably. "They must not starve," is the exclamation in everybody's mouth, but who is to prevent it? They cannot answer this question in any other way than by hoping that there will be some Parliamentary grant for this purpose.

'I have often, my dearest, felt happy that my pursuits are not of a commercial kind, for although we professional men, in common with all the rest, cannot get our lawful due in a pecuniary way, yet we are not harassed with the fear of losses from speculation, &c. The lesson which the present state of things teaches us is, that we must not be extravagant, but beyond that, we have no other caution to exercise. It is to be hoped that by-and-by things will mend, and that the storm will permanently subside.

'I must now, my Anna, come to a conclusion, otherwise I shall be too late. . . . .

'I fear, my darling, that I have written a gloomy sort of a letter, for, to tell you, and *you only*, the truth, I want to have you with me, in order to cheer me to my wonted spirits. Yet, my Anna, I would not be too selfish; you are at your duty, and I would not for the world's riches allow any after-reflection to scathe that bosom of thine, if a sacrifice on my part can prevent it.

<sup>1</sup> Of Bolesworth Castle, near Chester, and a very valued friend of Mr. Turner's.



‘Give my kindest love to your dear mamma and the rest, and believe me, my dearest, ever

‘Your affectionate

‘T.’

‘Thursday Night, Oct. 1, 1829.

‘My darling Anna,—Mrs. —— has just left a letter from you, which letter has, I assure you, been very welcome to me. Ere you receive this you will have had the letter which I wrote this afternoon in a great hurry, and in which I promised to write again by Mr. James Kennedy, who leaves for Southport at half-past ten to-morrow morning. Your very affectionate letter is, my darling, almost romantic, but I am sure it is from your heart, for I know you too well to suspect the contrary. That you are dull I am certain, and do assure you that I am as dull as you are.

‘To return in the evening, after the labours of the day are finished, and not find you to welcome me home and sit down at the cosy supper-board together, leaves me but little consolation in your absence; but thank heaven, our separation will not be much longer, and if it pleases God to restore you to perfect health, I shall be more than recompensed for our temporary privation. . . . .

‘I have been this evening to hear Dr. Spurzheim’s first lecture on the Anatomy of the Brain. There were present about forty, a smaller number than I expected, and it was evident that the doctor himself was disappointed. I trust, however, that his class will increase. He is disposed to be on the most friendly footing, and has offered services too tempting to be rejected, namely, that he will devote any time to me *in private* that I will choose to give to him, in order to make me thoroughly acquainted with his dissection of the brain; and he expresses great anxiety that I should be the means of promulgating his anatomical doctrines. These (as you know) I have always upheld, and therefore am happy in the opportunity of learning them so thoroughly. . . . .

‘He comes on Saturday to take a steak with me, quite in a friendly way. Would, my darling, that you were at home, as it would give us a better opportunity than any



we have hitherto had of enjoying his society in unreserved conversation; but we shall see him often, I expect, after your return, as he will remain with us a full month, and perhaps longer.

‘You will be very sorry to hear that Mrs. S. is in a very delicate state of health, and I should really fear, from the accounts given, that she is in a very precarious way. The doctor would have spent the evening with me, but he had to write to her, for he seems very anxious about her. . . . . Mr. Smith has been here this afternoon, and expressed a wish that I should go over to Chaddock to see his mother on Sunday, which (God willing) I purpose doing. Fancy me, therefore, at the Hall on that day at dinner, at half-past one. Be assured I shall think of you, and shall drink your health in heart and in a bumper after dinner.

‘I am glad to hear that you continue to improve. . . . . That our little darlings are well too makes me very happy; kiss them over and over again for me.

‘Smith gratified me this afternoon very much by stating the general satisfaction that my lectures gave. He counted 109 in the lecture-room, and five-sixths of them medical students. I expect an overflowing class this winter. I have filled my paper without saying a word about your return. I will mention it in my next. God bless you and ours, and believe me, dearest Anna,

‘Ever yours,

‘T.’

‘Friday afternoon, July 29, 1831.

‘My darling,—On my return home after the operations at the Infirmary, I found your letter, and scribble a few lines to say that I hope and trust it will be in my power to be with you to-morrow evening. Mrs. N. is better; and if she continues so I shall not be happy in not being with you; but, my dearest girl, you must not be too much disappointed if I should not; console yourself with the thought that it will not be my fault. . . . . This morning has been an anxious morning to me, in consequence of having to perform my first operation for



stone at the Hospital.<sup>1</sup> Thank God it went off capitally, and, without flattery to myself, with perfect satisfaction to all present. You make no mention of our little darlings; I therefore conclude that they are well.

‘Excuse, my darling, this hurried scrawl, for I am tremendously driven for time, having to meet Dr. Holme and Mr. Jordan. My only object in writing to you was to remove a little suspense relative to my visit to-morrow. . . . .

‘Believe me, yours ever,  
‘T.’

‘August 17, 1831.

‘My dearest Anna,—This morning on my return home I found a basket with a note. It turned out to contain an elegant silver goblet and a quantity of grapes. The note expressed my acceptance of the goblet for our eldest little girl, and the grapes were intended for you. The donor is Mrs. Radford, of Clifton Hall. A more elegant little present I have never received for professional services, and our darling Anna (when she is old enough to value the present) will, I am sure, prize it highly. . . .

‘Ever yours,  
‘THOS. TURNER.’

‘Tuesday night, half-past 11 o’clock, Aug. 22, 1832.

‘My dearest Anna,—After all the household has retired to rest I am sitting down to write a few lines to my disconsolate wife, and to acknowledge the receipt of her letter of yesterday, and her “*melancholy*” one of to-day. Poor girl! she has to be sure a great deal to be melancholy about; but, flattering as it is to me, I presume it is merely on the ground of separation from me; and be assured, my dearest, that I feel as much as you can do; that I could not live without you and our children.

‘I am not a culprit to the extent you believe me, as expressed in your letter, for on Sunday evening, after loss of rest for two nights, I sat down and penned a long

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Turner had just been elected Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary.



letter to you, which was put in the post-office on Sunday evening, and which ought certainly to have reached you on Monday; but ere this doubtless it has done so, and has calmed all your fears with respect to my being the victim of cholera. I was never better, thank God, in spite of hard work and loss of rest. . . . .

‘According to former arrangements you thought of returning home on Saturday next. Now, if you can be accommodated at Leasowe two or three days longer, I will try to steal away from home on Saturday, and remain with you till Monday afternoon, or perhaps Tuesday, and return altogether. This would give me a little turn-out, and prolong a short time your and our children’s stay at the sea-side; but if I find on Friday evening that I cannot leave on Saturday, I shall send William over to fetch you home immediately; but I trust the former arrangement will not be frustrated, for I long for a little relaxation, and to spend two or three days with *you* at the sea-side, to breathe the pure sea-air; but, my dearest, in these alarming times I dare not anticipate pleasure, although you may be assured that I shall make a struggle to obtain it, as I am sure you would enjoy my being with you and our children in a quiet way at Leasowe; and I need not use much argument to persuade you that to me it would be delightful.

‘I have received a letter from your father, stating the safe arrival of your dear mamma and himself at Gravesend, and he thinks already that she is better for the change, although certainly not so strong as to undertake a journey to Manchester. I will bring the letter with me.

‘Mr. Parker sent me a note yesterday to say that he had arrived in town, and would breakfast with me on the following morning; but I was obliged to go to the country early, and therefore could not receive him. I have received a letter from him to-day from Tabley House, expressive of great kindness and gratitude, and wishing much to see me before he leaves for London, which will be shortly. I should like him to have seen your picture.

‘By the bye, a gentleman (a great judge) came to consult me professionally, and after doing so, he asked me



where I had obtained "that Wilson" in the dining-room. He never knew that that artist had taken a smaller view of the same subject than that exhibited.

'You may suppose I was not a little proud to tell him the artist, at which he expressed astonishment, and went to look again, and said it was as good a picture as he had seen for many a month.

'This intelligence will, I hope, be pleasing to my dearest Anna.

'I am delighted to find by your letters that our little darlings are so well, "*God bless their little hearts.*" God bless them! How I long to see them and you! Thank heaven we shall soon be altogether again, for I am heartily tired of a bachelor's life. . . . . God bless you, my darling. Kiss the dear children, and ever believe me,

'Your affectionate and devoted

'T.'

'Tuesday Night, Mosley Street, June 1, 1834.

'My dearest Anna,—I know my little wife too well to suppose otherwise than that she will be very angry with me, if I do not tell her how we are going on in Mosley Street. And now, my love, first to that which we love the best in this establishment, namely, our dear little girls, who, thank God, are quite well, and so gay and happy as to be almost wild. I have them with me at breakfast, and generally at dinner, but I am such an uncertain man, now that I have no one to keep me in good order, that I scarcely dine two days alike. Sometimes I bolt it at one, sometimes three, and sometimes scarcely at all, for my meals have not so much charm for me now, as when my dearest Anna is with me; and indeed, to tell the truth, I have so much to occupy my brains about at present, that I eat more from a matter of duty than from inclination. . . . .

'Mr. Sharp and I had a pleasant ride home, and had all the talk to ourselves, for there was no one in the coach but a woman whom we took up at Disley. We reached Manchester at 11 o'clock precisely, and I found that I had been much wanted in several quarters, but I



started off without loss of time, and soon made matters tolerably straight again. I thought of you, several times in the day, and was afraid that you would feel low and lonely after Mrs. Sharp and her son's departure, and that, too, accompanied by the loss of your excellent friend Mr. Gordon, for whose attentions to you I feel grateful. I am glad, however, my darling, that you have the General and his lady left behind, for I am sure they will continue their friendly feelings towards you in the absence of your natural protector, and who would gladly be with you if duty did not keep him at home.

'I hope we shall be able to arrange the trip to Chatsworth on my next visit to Buxton, but it is impossible to say what may occur to prevent. I should be indeed sorry for you to go there without me; but if I find that it is not possible for me to accompany you, I will take care that you shall not be disappointed, for I can safely trust you in the hands of our friend Mr. Sharp; for, so precious as you are to me, I will not trust you in the hands of anyone, lest they should take it in their heads to run off with you! But, setting aside joking, it is my intention, my dearest Anna, to go with you, all things permitting.

'Now that I know your apartments and your private walks, I can follow you (in my mind's eye) through the whole of the day. Yesterday, when I was rolling through Trafford Park in my carriage, I fancied you at the dinner-table receiving all the attentions of the beaux, and poor I, disconsolate elsewhere. . . . .

'You accuse me, my darling, of writing letters all hurry-and-scurry, and I fear you will stigmatise this one as the last. It will find you, however, in the midst of bustle, for the races will draw many people around you, and will serve in some measure to divert you, and to take off the sameness of Buxton. Not that I think, my dearest Anna, that gaiety has any charm for you, unless I can participate in the pleasure, and you know that at no time has gaiety anything in it to delight me. Indeed, I am more disposed than ever, I think, to lead a quiet life; and if cloistered much longer in hard fag and study, I think you will complain on your return home that I am more



unsociable than ever! The accusation of being unsociable has often come from you to me, and I fear it will be too well-merited, for my thoughts, at all events at present, are divided between you and the subjects of study, to which I am under the necessity of devoting every moment of time beyond what my other professional duties demand.

‘I hope, my dearest, that your rheumatism is better than when I left you. It gives me pain to find you suffering so much. . . . .

‘Kiss my darling little Anna for me, and tell her to kiss you for me. God bless you, my Anna, and believe me,

‘Ever and always,

‘Your sincerely attached,

‘T.

‘P.S.—You must think favourably of this scrawl when I tell you that it is late at night and no one stirring but myself. Good night.’

This concluding letter, with its allusion to the charge of unsociability playfully brought against her husband by Mrs. Turner, is very characteristic. Few were more thoroughly alive to the perfectly unrestrained and happy intercourse of the family circle, or more fully enjoyed the society of a few chosen friends; but the ordinary chit-chat of fashionable dinner-party life had no charms for Mr. Turner, and it was always with reluctance that these invitations were accepted. He regarded such intercourse as a waste of most precious time, with which all are entrusted for the carrying out of high and noble aims, and it was always with a feeling of dissatisfaction that he took part in such scenes.

As regarded his family, the keen enjoyment which Mr. Turner had derived throughout his entire life, from the exercise of his intellectual powers, and especially in the study of science, led him earnestly to desire to direct the minds of his children into the same channel, and some of their very earliest remembrances are connected with social evenings arranged by their father with a view to this end. Upon these occasions Mr. Turner invited two or three scientific friends to his own house, and one of them would deliver an elementary address upon astronomy, botany,



chemistry, or electricity, illustrated by drawings, the microscope, or experiments. At these times the children were allowed to sit up a little later than usual; and upon their retirement, Mr. and Mrs. Turner were able to enjoy an hour of quiet intellectual intercourse with the friends thus assembled. Mr. Turner's excessive professional engagements, and Mrs. Turner's delicate state of health, led, however, to irregularity in the carrying out of this little plan, and finally to its abandonment.

The subject of education generally was one of peculiar interest to Mr. Turner, and it must not be supposed from the foregoing statement that he had the least sympathy with those well-meaning but most injudicious persons, who seek to force the intellectual development of the young. He had a horror of precocious talent, as it is usually designated, and was often heard to remark that such manifestations were almost invariably found to end in disappointment, and that the boy who was an early genius, would in most cases prove himself to be of very ordinary capacity in mature life. He contended that the physical training and moral culture of their children, should be the first objects of the parents' solicitude, and afterwards, their intellectual development; that children are learning from every object surrounding them, and that it is, therefore, in this way, and not from books, that the powers of the mind in young children should be gradually drawn out: the pursuance of an opposite course (by overstraining the mental powers) ending only in their enfeeblement.

Those who have heard or read Mr. Turner's lectures upon education will recognise these views, which were thoroughly carried out by him in the early training of his own family. His convictions were strongly in favour also of home-education for girls, and none of his own daughters were ever sent to school. They were at first committed to the care of a governess, and for many years latterly, were placed under the teaching of a resident tutor, the services of masters and ladies occupied in conveying such instruction being engaged for accomplishments and languages.

'The gentleman thus selected by Mr. Turner had been personally known to him for many years, as tutor to the



sons of the Rev. Charles Girdlestone, M.A., who was an intimate friend of the family, at that time rector of Alderley, in Cheshire, and well known as the author of a Commentary upon the Holy Scriptures, and many other works. The arrangement proved very satisfactory, and was one which there was never cause in any way to regret.

It has been mentioned that Mr. Turner first settled in practice in Piccadilly, but shortly after his marriage he removed to a house at the upper part of King Street, and in the autumn of 1830 took possession of the residence in Mosley Street, which he retained during the remainder of his life.

Since the decease of his father, in 1821, Mr. Turner had enjoyed a peculiar immunity from bereavement, but as the year 1832 approached, the health of his youngest sister (Mrs. Richard Smith) became such as to cause him much anxiety. She was the only member of his own family settled in the north of England, and therefore the only one with whom he had enjoyed almost uninterrupted intercourse.

Her gentle unselfishness, and sweetness of character, had strongly attached all the members of her husband's family to her, and the tie which united her to her brother was a very deep and tender one, as may be gathered from a remark made by her to Mrs. Turner during the period of her engagement: 'If it may be reasonably expected that a good son and a good brother will prove himself to be a good husband, you may indeed anticipate very much happiness.'

This tie was now to be severed. Mrs. Richard Smith died May 1, 1832, leaving a son and two daughters; and as it had been decided that the former should be educated for the medical profession, he was, shortly after his mother's death, placed under his uncle's care, and pursued his studies for many years beneath his roof.

Another bereavement was experienced by Mrs. Turner during the year following, in the death of her excellent mother. As letters given in this chapter have already shown, Mrs. James Clarke had for some years been more or less of an invalid, and she died on the 21st April,



1833, in her fifty-second year. The sorrow of this loss was greatly increased to Mrs. Turner by the circumstance that her own severe illness at the time prevented her from being with her mother during the closing days of her life.



## CHAPTER XI.

ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL SCHOOLS OF MEDICINE IN MANCHESTER  
—OPENING OF THE NEW BUILDING IN PINE STREET—SUCCESSION  
OF VARIOUS PROVINCIAL SCHOOLS—THE ANATOMY BILL—MR. TURNER  
SUMMONED BY THE HOUSE OF COMMONS TO GIVE EVIDENCE BEFORE  
THE MEDICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE—SUCCESSFUL ISSUE—ELECTED  
SURGEON TO THE ROYAL INFIRMARY—EXTRACTS FROM DIARY—  
PROPOSED COLLEGE.

WE have followed the history of the Pine Street Medical School from its commencement, in 1824, until the year 1827, but must now briefly notice the successive establishment of additional Schools of Medicine in Manchester, and the institution of such in several other provincial towns of size and importance, where (through the encouragement afforded by Mr. Turner's example) other medical men exerted themselves to offer the advantages of similar training, to young men studying the profession.

Mr. Jordan has been already alluded to, as having commenced and carried on for a great many successive years, a course of lectures upon anatomy. Shortly after the establishment of the Pine Street school, he gathered many of his professional friends together, among whom were Dr. Radford and Dr. Freckleton, and, with their assistance, opened a second School of Medicine and Surgery in Mount Street, which was thoroughly organised in the year 1827.

After two or three sessions, however, several of the lecturers resigned, and the school was ultimately dissolved; though with untiring perseverance and energy Mr. Jordan continued his anatomical lectures there (assisted by his nephew, Mr. Stephens) until the year 1834, when he retired from the office of lecturer, and the premises in Mount Street were given up.



At the opening winter session of the Pine Street School of Medicine, in that year, Mr. Turner delivered the inaugural address, and after naming various changes which had been made in the arrangements of the school, proceeded to state that among the most important alterations was a new appointment to one of the lectureships; and that in consequence of Mr. Jordan's retirement, they had been able to secure the services, as demonstrator of anatomy and lecturer on pathology, of Mr. Stephens, to whom he alluded as being 'well qualified for the office he had undertaken, and hoped the regret that might be felt at Mr. Jordan's secession, would be much palliated by the assurance that he, and the other lecturers, would do their best to make up the breach caused by Mr. Jordan's retirement.' The latter, Mr. Turner described, as 'one of the most distinguished anatomists that Manchester had ever produced,' adding that 'Mr. Jordan had retired voluntarily, and carried with him the best wishes of all the friends of the establishment; and although he and Mr. Jordan had differed in opinion during their lectureships on anatomical science, this had caused no interruption to that friendly feeling and good-fellowship which ought ever to exist between men engaged in the same liberal and useful occupation.'

The dissolution of the school in Mount Street was followed by the establishment of another in Marsden Street, in which Mr. Boutflower and Mr. Fawdington (both of whom had been previously connected with the Mount Street school) Dr. Hardy, Dr. Pendlebury, Mr. Windsor, and Mr. Mellor, took an active interest, and which continued to prosper for many years. In 1833, certain vacancies occurred in the Pine Street school, and the valuable services of Dr. Radford and Mr. Hunt were secured as lecturers in it; and in 1840 the Marsden Street school was closed, when its founders showed their kindly feeling towards the institution which Mr. Turner had established, by presenting to it the library of the Marsden Street school. This subject will be further alluded to in a future chapter.

On July 31, 1832, Mr. Turner laid the foundation-



stone of certain enlargements found to be needful for the convenient carrying on of the school, the lecture-theatre especially having proved too small; and these alterations having been completed, Mr. Turner opened the new buildings, by delivering the inaugural address, on October 1, 1832.

A large number of persons attended, in addition to the students; and indeed the lecture-theatre was so full that many were unable to gain entrance.

A public dinner was also given at Hayward's Hotel, in honour of the event, on October 24th, at which Mr. Benjamin Braidley, the Boroughreeve, presided. About 150 persons were present, numbering the principal men of science, and a great many of the most influential inhabitants of Manchester, and the neighbourhood. Among the friends thus assembled were Lieutenant-Colonel Shaw, the Rev. Dr. Smith, Rev. R. Elsdale, Rev. H. Fielding, F. Foster, Esq., E. J. Lloyd, Esq., Dr. Dalton, Dr. Holme, and Dr. Bardsley; also Mr. Jordan and other gentlemen who had been instrumental in establishing the Mount Street and Marsden Street schools, and whose presence was gratifying as showing the kindly feeling existing between those who, though in a measure separated in effort, were united in the one view of seeking to place greater educational advantages, and means of self-improvement, within the reach of the medical students of that day.

Few who were present, and took a prominent position upon this occasion, survive now, but the name of one who is still living, must not be omitted—Sir James L. Bardsley, who was one of the first lecturers at the Pine Street school, and who continued Mr. Turner's faithful friend to the last.

It is universally acknowledged to be no mark of true merit for a man to seek to exalt himself by dwelling upon the success of his own labours, and depreciating the efforts of those who have had their attention more or less directed to the same objects of pursuit; and no one who has followed the various events of Mr. Turner's life, which have been successively recorded in these pages, will fear to find a trace of such unworthy feeling in his conduct and character; but few perhaps, knowing the painstaking efforts



with which he established and opened in Pine Street, the first Provincial Medical School, and all the difficulties which he had individually to encounter, and finally overcame, will be prepared to expect the overflowing generosity of character which led him upon this occasion, so willingly to share his own well-merited honours, and justly-earned intellectual spoils, with the men of science who had preceded him in the field of professional education.

The President had alluded to Mr. Turner in terms of the highest eulogy, proposing his health, as founder of the school, and his name had been enthusiastically received. In reply, after a few introductory observations upon education generally, and upon the gratification which it afforded him to see so many of the intellectual inhabitants of the town assembled upon such an occasion, Mr. Turner spoke as follows:—

‘It might be expected, after the manner in which the President has been pleased to propose my health, that I should make some observations on the history and progress of the Manchester Schools of Medicine and Surgery. . . . . During the few years which I have had the honour of passing among you, I have devoted some share of my time to the purposes of medical and surgical instruction, and if I have added something to that which has been contributed by those who have gone before me, I shall feel myself most perfectly satisfied.

‘The formation of a School, or Schools of Medicine in Manchester, has not been the work of an hour, nor of a day, nor of a year; nor can the honour of having established them be considered as the boast of one individual.

‘I do not take to myself, gentlemen, any exclusive right to it. I came amongst you at a fortunate period, when lectures on anatomy were being delivered by my friend Mr. Jordan, who may be considered in effect as the founder of the School of Anatomy, in this town.<sup>1</sup>

‘It required little more than an organisation of plans with a view to bringing the lecturers together, and inducing

<sup>1</sup> The distinction existing between a school of anatomy only, and a thoroughly organised school, embracing instruction upon every branch of medical and surgical science, is self-evident.



them to give lectures on the various branches of medical science, to supersede the necessity of students going to London.

‘This, I have the pleasure of informing you, has been accomplished, and the Schools of Medicine now stand, with respect to their certificates, upon the same level and ground as those of the metropolis.

‘Lectures were given in this town many years ago. Mr. White lectured on anatomy; Mr. Gibson, Mr. Ransome, and Mr. Ainsworth have also delivered courses; and I have already mentioned to you that my friend, Mr. Jordan, continues to lecture upon the subject to this present hour.

‘I am willing therefore to share fully the honour with those gentlemen who have preceded me in the honourable course of improving the condition of the medical student, and would say, moreover, that I will not limit myself to those gentlemen who lectured before me. I will take into the association those who have lectured, and who continue to lecture on the other branches of medical science. I would include the physicians and surgeons of our public charities, who for years have filled their stations with honour to themselves, and with advantage to the public; and although last, not least, gentlemen, I would include most of you, who have by your munificence supported our hospitals for the reception of the sick, by which we have been enabled to reduce our theories, formed in the closet, to the test of experience at the bedside of our patients.

‘Thus, then, it has been by the united efforts of many, that the great work has been achieved, and that we have reason now to boast that the schools of Manchester enjoy a reputation and character which enable them to rank amongst the most useful institutions of the country.

‘I look upon this day as exceedingly important and exceedingly interesting. It is one which, I am sure, reflects great honour on the town; and the point is neither more nor less than this (or my vanity would fain lead me to suppose so), that you now enrol the Medical Schools amongst the noble institutions of Manchester.’



The following list, showing the successive years in which most of the principal Provincial Medical Schools in the kingdom were fully organised and established, evinces how truly Mr. Turner may be regarded as the father of all such institutions:—

Pine Street, Manchester,	fully organised in	1825.
Mount Street	”	1827.
Sheffield	... ..	1827.
Bristol	... ..	1828.
Birmingham	... ..	1828.
Leeds	... ..	1830.
Norwich,	about the same time.	
Hull	... ..	1831.
Nottingham	... ..	1833.
York	... ..	1833.
Liverpool	... ..	1834.
Gloucester	... ..	1834.

Almost all these schools were founded on the plans adopted in Pine Street.

Mr. Overend (senior) and Dr. Thomson, of Sheffield, visited Mr. Turner in 1827, and established their school on the model which he had formed.

Mr. Cox, of Birmingham, visited Manchester in order to become possessed of the Pine Street plans, and upon these he also founded his school.

Mr. Thackrah, of Leeds, commenced a course of lectures preparatory to the formation of a School of Medicine in 1827. Messrs. Hay, Teale, and others afterwards came over to see the arrangements of the Pine Street school, in order to complete their own.

Mr. Crosse, of Norwich, and one of the physicians of the town, addressed letters to Mr. Turner and Mr. Ransome, on the subject of the establishment of a school there.

The school in Hull was founded by Mr. Turner's own pupil and apprentice, Mr. Wallis.

Mr. Hetling and other medical men established the School of Medicine and Surgery in Bristol, and entered into a correspondence with Mr. Turner in reference to it.

Dr. Formby and Dr. Philp visited Manchester in the autumn of 1834, when Mr. Turner had interviews with them, and put them in possession of the Pine Street school



plans and papers, preparatory to the formation of the Liverpool school.

Thus it will be seen how fully the Pine Street school, in Manchester, was entitled to the honour conferred in March 1836, when the Royal patronage was extended to it, in consideration of its being the *first* School of Medicine ever established in the provinces.

Among the serious obstacles which the promoters of the various Schools of Medicine had to encounter at this time, one of the greatest was the difficulty with which the means of dissection were supplied to the students, a difficulty with which the metropolitan schools had equally, or even to a greater extent, than the provincial ones to contend.

In order skilfully and safely to prosecute the duties of their profession, it was universally felt and acknowledged that medical students ought to possess an accurate knowledge of the wonderful mechanism of the human frame; but such a minute acquaintance with it as was indispensable, could be alone obtained by dissection, and for some time no legal enactment legitimatised the possession of bodies for this purpose; the prejudiced feeling of the day blinding those in power to the unreasonableness of demanding intelligent information from the student, upon the one side, and withholding from him the means of acquiring it, on the other.

Mr. Turner, in his connexion with the Pine Street school, felt in common with all those who were similarly placed, the painful injustice of this position, and hailed with thankfulness the growing enlightenment of public feeling, which led to the introduction of a bill into Parliament, in the year 1832, for the amendment of this crying evil.

It did not promise at first, however, to supply all the acknowledged deficiency.

The following letter upon this subject, was addressed by Mr. Turner to Dr. Henry at this time:—

‘To Dr. Henry.

‘January 13, 1832.

‘My dear Sir,—I am much obliged to you for sending



me Warburton's Anatomy Bill, but I need not detain it, as by last night's post I received a printed copy from the member himself. I have attentively perused the bill, and must candidly tell you it seems to me to be deficient, *very* deficient, in many points.

'First, and mainly, there is no provision whatever for a supply to the schools.

'We (anatomical lecturers) are therefore left without the means of giving anatomical instruction, without continuing the diabolical practice of encouraging a set of villains to disturb the bodies deposited in churchyards.

'To legalise possession of a body is a point of importance to us, as it renders us no longer amenable to the law on that score; but *this* is of second-rate consequence, as the law is never acted up to in this particular.

'No bill in my opinion can be perfect that has not for its main object the doing away with the disinterment of the dead by stealth, and therefore a legal enactment is necessary to supply us with the means of dissection, without having recourse to practices which we abhor, but which we cannot avoid, without legislative provision.

'Mr. W. requested me on a former occasion to give him my opinion as to the best means of supplying the schools, and I did not hesitate to recommend the mode adopted in France, as being less likely than any other to prove obnoxious to the living.

'I beg to take this opportunity of thanking you for the pamphlets on the disinfecting power of heat, which I have read with great pleasure.

'Believe me, dear Sir,

'Very sincerely yours,

'THOS. TURNER.'

Various amendments were suggested and carried out, and the bill came into operation in October 1832, the required provision being in every way ultimately secured; but it was not until the year 1834 that the bill could be said to be satisfactorily working.

Another medical question of the day, in which Mr. Turner took a deep and active personal interest, was how to



secure a fuller recognition of the principal hospitals in the provinces, as affording *ample* means for the instruction of young men engaged in the profession, and consequently rendering the six months' attendance at a London hospital (hitherto required by the College of Surgeons) unnecessary.

The following letter addressed by the eminent surgeon Mr. Teale, to Mr. Turner, in reply to one penned by him, powerfully represents the case, and is also interesting from the allusion which it contains to the establishment of the Manchester branch of the Medical Association, with the early history of which Mr. Turner had much to do :—

‘ Leeds, April 8, 1834.

‘ My dear Sir,—Your letter dated March 31st only reached me last night.

‘ I have submitted it to my colleagues, Mr. Smith and Mr. W. Hay, and we fully agree with you in the propriety of using every effort towards obtaining a full recognition of the large provincial hospitals.

‘ We shall take steps immediately for petitioning the Legislature, and for exerting any influence we may possess with the members resident in our neighbourhood.

‘ As the subject is, however, quite new to us, and as you have long felt interested in it, from having for so many years been engaged in teaching, we shall be glad of any suggestions you may offer as to the grounds on which we should rest our claims.

‘ You may probably be able to supply us with copies of some documents relative to the subject. From the brief consideration which I have been enabled to give the affair during the day, it occurs to me that we should urge upon the attention of the Legislature the *injustice* of the College to provincial hospital surgeons, in thus officially proclaiming them incompetent to teach surgery; the *inconsistency* of the College, when they recognise us as teachers of anatomy and surgery in the School of Medicine, but suppose us incompetent to teach surgery at the Hospital; the *injustice to pupils*, in compelling an additional expenditure of money and time for practical opportunities



less available than, and inferior to, those which they enjoyed in provincial hospitals. To state the number of beds of surgical cases in the Infirmary, the number of capital operations, of severe accidents, &c., and clinical instruction.

‘Please to state your opinion as to whether this is the proper course, and also offer any suggestions that may occur to you.

‘We have this day had a meeting for establishing a Leeds branch of the North of England Medical and Surgical Association. I suggested an alteration in the designation of the Society, and proposed to entitle it “The North of England Medical Association.”

‘In the original, surgery is detached from medicine, as if it did not constitute a part of the science of medicine. I think in the present day it either is, or ought to be, generally understood, that Medicine is a term to which practitioners in surgery, and practitioners in physic, have an equal claim.

‘By adopting the original designation, the distinction between physicians and surgeons, and the inferior grade of the latter, may be tacitly perpetuated.

‘If these remarks accord with your ideas, will you have the goodness to propagate them among the Manchester members of the Association, previous to the general meeting for finally organising the society?

‘Believe me, dear Sir,

‘Very truly yours,

‘J. P. TEALE.

‘To Thos. Turner, Esq.’

In reply to petitions addressed to the House of Commons upon this subject of the recognition of hospitals in the provinces, a committee was appointed to enquire into the state of general medical education in the three kingdoms; and a letter was addressed by one of the members of this committee (Mr. Wood) to Mr. Turner, saying how glad he would be to receive, and would consider himself under an obligation for, any suggestions in relation to the subject of their enquiry which Mr. Turner would like to advance. The required information



was supplied; and shortly afterwards another letter was received from this gentleman, thanking Mr. Turner for his 'numerous and valuable suggestions,' and adding: 'If anything occurs in the course of our enquiries and proceedings, on which I need advice or information, I will take the liberty of troubling you again; and if anything important further occurs to you, pray let me hear from you.'

Mr. Frankland Lewis was appointed one of the committee specially to attend to the interests of the College of Surgeons; and on June 12th, 1834, Mr. Turner was summoned by the House of Commons, with one or two other eminent medical men from different towns, to give evidence before the Medical Education Committee, upon the subject of the recognition of the provincial hospitals.

The result of all these efforts was satisfactory, and the six months' attendance at a London hospital, on the part of the student who had otherwise completed his medical training was abolished, thus preventing a most useless expenditure of time and money, as well as exposure to the seductive and contaminating influences of the metropolis, so likely to prove injurious, with the partial occupation of time which the hospital attendance would demand, when the ordinarily required course of medical study would have been accomplished.

In pursuing the history of provincial medical school education, and noticing the subjects intimately connected with their welfare, we have omitted to mention one event of a personal character, in reference to Mr. Turner's professional life, which took place during the years we have been reviewing; namely, his election as Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary.

There are in connection with this excellent institution, which was established in 1752, five surgeons, and two assistant-surgeons, in addition to a large staff of physicians; and these medical officers are selected by an election committee of thirty gentlemen, chosen out of the entire body of the trustees.

At the time of which we are writing, the mode adopted was different, and Mr. Turner was elected in August 1830, by the votes of the whole body of the



trustees, obtaining even a larger majority than the most sanguine of his friends had expected.

This mode of election was, however, most laborious, exciting, and expensive, and has consequently been abandoned.

The medical men selected, attend daily for a week in succession for certain hours at the Infirmary, and the most eminent physicians and surgeons of the town, have one after another held office in this way.

The following letter, addressed to Mr. Turner by his friend Mr. Duck, a few months after the election, congratulating him upon the event, and asking for suggestions from his old pupil in reference to the establishment of another hospital in Bristol, is interesting, as showing the continued kindly feeling, and real respect, entertained towards Mr. Turner by his former instructor:

‘Ridgeway House, Bristol, 2nd month, 19, 1831.

‘My dear Friend,—Having been appointed one of the committee to enquire into the expediency of providing another hospital for the relief of the numerous surgical and medical cases which are rejected at the Infirmary from want of room, and also to enquire into the best mode of conducting such hospitals generally, I shall be greatly obliged by thy sending by my friend James Gilpin, the bearer of this, a copy of the rules, &c. of your Infirmary, together with any other printed documents likely to assist us; and at thy leisure, I shall be glad to receive any hints from thyself.’ [After entering into some of the details of the proposed hospital, Mr. Duck proceeds]:—‘It is a long time since I heard of thy welfare. I believe I am indebted to our friend John Marriss, for a newspaper containing an account of thy election to the office of Surgeon of the Manchester Infirmary, an event on which I cordially offer my sincere congratulations. . . . I do not know what family of thy own I may enquire after; we have now six children, three boys and three girls. . . . Should business or pleasure bring thee to Bristol, remember thy home is at the house of thy sincere friend,

‘N. DUCK.’



Mr. Turner continued his services to the institution for a quarter of a century, at the close of which time he was left senior surgeon—‘My poor friend Wilson, and colleague for twenty-five years (as Mr. Turner feelingly remarks, in some papers left by him), having died.’

On sending in his resignation, a letter was addressed by the Board of the Royal Infirmary to Mr. Turner, requesting him to withdraw it; but upon his declining to do this, he received another letter, expressive of their deep respect, and conferring upon him the honour of Consulting Surgeon. Evidently the statement made since his removal by death, that ‘at the Royal Infirmary Mr. Turner was, for a quarter of a century, the central figure in a group of eminent practitioners,’ truly expressed the feeling entertained for him.

We shall close this chapter with a few extracts from Mr. Turner’s diary in the year 1836 :—

‘*July 3, 1836.*—Letter from Dr. Hastings, accepting my invitation to spend the days of the Medical Association with us.

‘*July 4.*—Annual meeting of the Natural History Society, when I was again elected honorary secretary. Several gentlemen visited my museum to-day.

‘*July 5.*—Received a letter from Mr. Crosse, of Norwich, thanking me for my communications.

‘*July 8.*—Meeting of the committee of the Association.

‘*July 10.*—Wrote sixteen letters of invitation to physicians and surgeons at a distance to dine with me on the first day of the meeting of the Medical Association.

‘*July 11.*—Took in patients at the Infirmary.

‘*July 20.*—Dr. Hastings arrived this morning, and took up his abode at our house.

‘This was the first day of the Association. A committee meeting at 6 o’clock. Eighteen gentlemen dined with me, amongst whom were Dr. Crowther, of Wakefield; Mr. Bedingfield, of Stowmarket; Dr. Fox, of Derby; Dr. Hastings; Mr. Hay, of Leeds; Mr. Teale, of Leeds; Mr. Johnson, of Norwich; Mr. Hare, of Leeds, &c.

‘The first public meeting was held this evening, at 8 o’clock.



‘*July 21.*—Another public meeting of the Association; held at 12 o’clock, when Mr. Crosse, of Norwich, read his retrospective address.

‘The Association dined together at the Exchange room in the evening, at six. Dr. Holme in the chair. Dr. Bardsley, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Jordan, and myself, officiated as vice-presidents.

‘Dr. Hastings left on July 22.

‘*July 23.*—Received a letter from Dr. Hastings.

‘*August 1.*—Dr. Newbold came to reside in Manchester.

‘*August 2.*—A dreadful accident at the Infirmary to a boy, who was thrown round a shaft at a factory. Limbs terribly shattered, ribs broken, spitting of blood, indicating laceration of the lungs, &c. On being called to the Infirmary, found the boy beyond all rescue, and dying.

‘*August 19.*—Went to Staley Bridge to visit Dr. Campbell in a case of mortification of the leg; patient aged 73.

‘*September 9.*—Mr. Latter<sup>1</sup> visited Manchester.

‘*September 11.*—Mr. Latter and Mr. Beaver dined with us.

‘*September 14.*—Mrs. Turner and I went to Wales, whence we returned on the 22nd. J. Newbold officiated in my absence.

‘*October 4.*—Mr. Ransome opened the school by the delivery of the introductory address.

‘*October 5.*—I commenced my lectures. The other lecturers followed in succession.

‘*October 19.*—Called the lecturers together, to consider the propriety of at once establishing a college in Manchester.

‘*November.*—During the early part of this month, my leisure-time was chiefly occupied in arrangements for bringing the subject of a College before my townsmen. My colleagues and I had several meetings; and on Wednesday, the 9th, about ten friends dined with me to talk over the subject, preparatory to the meeting convened for Thursday, the 10th.

‘*November 10.*—About forty gentlemen met at the

<sup>1</sup> A very old friend of Mr. Turner’s and who still survives him.



York Hotel, when Mr. Brandt, the barrister, was called to the chair. After opening the meeting I was called upon by the chairman, and several others, to enter upon the subject. I did so in a speech of half an hour, when two resolutions of a favourable nature were passed, and a committee was appointed.'

The college thus projected, was not, however, formed. Various difficulties were encountered, which led to its abandonment for the time; but the desire to see such an institution established in Manchester, and the medical school incorporated with it, never ceased to exist in Mr. Turner's mind; and long delayed though the consummation of his hope was, it was a source of joy to himself, and of congratulation upon the part of his family and his friends, that he was permitted at last to see its accomplishment, in the union of the Manchester Royal School of Medicine with the Owen's College.



## CHAPTER XII.

DEEPENING RELIGIOUS INTEREST—EXTRACTS FROM DIARY—MR. CLARKE'S DEATH—ADDRESS UPON MEDICAL EDUCATION DELIVERED IN 1840—INSTINCT AND REASON—FURTHER EXTRACTS FROM DIARY.

IN the year 1837 the Rev. H. W. M'Grath (now Canon M'Grath) was presented to the living of St. Ann's, Manchester, which he held until the year 1852. Very shortly after his appointment, Mr. and Mrs. Turner became members of his congregation, and an intimate personal friendship sprang up between the members of Mr. M'Grath's family and Mr. Turner's, leading to much happy and profitable intercourse during the whole of the residence of the former in Manchester, which extended over a period of more than twenty years, as Mr. M'Grath accepted the living of St. Paul's, Kersal, when he resigned St. Ann's.

The searching and powerful ministry of this good man was greatly appreciated by Mr. Turner, and led to a deepening interest in the things of eternity, of which many parts of the diary kept by him at this time, and for many successive years, bear striking evidence.

In May 1837 Mr. Turner writes:—

‘ During the early months of this year I have been a good deal occupied in college arrangements.

‘ Mr. Ransome died February 10th, and was interred on the 16th. His colleagues, and about fifty students, attended the funeral. At the request of Mr. J. Ransome, who is deputed to complete his father's course at the school, I delivered about twenty-five lectures on operative surgery, including fractures and dislocations.

‘ I completed my course on anatomy on Saturday, April



29th, when the prizes were awarded. The lectures of the session have been well attended, and I have never had more reason to be satisfied with the conduct of the students.

‘*May 23rd.*—A meeting of the lecturers was held this day, when auditors were appointed, and the lecturers of the summer session fixed upon, as follows:—

‘Comparative Anatomy and Physiology—Mr. Turner.

Pathology—Dr. Stephens.

Forensic Medicine—Mr. Ollier.

Practical Chemistry—Mr. Davies.

Natural Philosophy—Mr. Davies.

Obstetrical Demonstrations—Mr. Bryden.

On the Eye—Mr. Hunt.

‘*28th.*—Mr. Haydon, the celebrated artist, dined with us; likewise Mr. Player, senior, from Wales, with Mr. H. Player and Dr. J. Newbold. Mr. Haydon is now giving lectures here on painting. He is an exceedingly intelligent, facetious, and enthusiastic man, perfectly wrapped up in his profession, and resolved to correct the abuses of artists, and the Royal Academy, which *he* condemns as rotten in its constitution.

‘Mr. Haydon is full of anecdote, and gave us some very interesting accounts of his early life, difficulties, and associates; amongst other things he mentioned some cases where individuals of his acquaintance did not know certain colours. On one occasion he was walking with a learned friend at sunset, when the sky was of a bright orange colour. His friend observed, “How beautiful is the sun setting in the *brown* sky!”

‘His acquaintance with Wilkie has existed uninterruptedly from the period of their being youths studying together in the Royal Academy. He related an interesting fact connected with Wilkie’s picture, the Village Politicians. Mr. Haydon and Jackson (another artist), seeing the merits of the picture, advised Wilkie to send it to the Exhibition, but he refused, and they sat with him until 12 o’clock at night, endeavouring to persuade Wilkie to do so, but seemingly in vain. However, when the Exhibition was opened, Wilkie’s picture was among the rest. In a



few days one of the papers spoke of the picture in terms of praise, as being the work of a young Scotchman of the name of Wilkie. With great glee, Haydon and Jackson went to Wilkie's lodgings, and read him the paragraph, when all three got up from their seats, and hand-in-hand danced round the table. Mr. Haydon mentioned some other interesting anecdotes of Wilkie, West, and others; likewise of Sir H. Davy, and many other celebrated characters.

‘He painted the First Reform Dinner for Earl Grey, which occupied him nineteen months. It is about to be engraved.

‘29th.—Went to hear Mr. Haydon lecture at the Mechanics' Institution.

‘Rev. T. Birkett spent the evening with us. Anecdote of a Welsh clergyman, who was preaching extemporaneously from a slip of paper, when a gust of wind blew the paper off the desk. He endeavoured to seize it in its flight, when the pulpit fell, parson and all. The clerk's reply to an expression of the danger of this calamity was, “Why, parson, I never saw you follow your *text* so well before.”

‘June 1.—At the request of my colleagues, I opened the first *summer* session of the school, now required by the regulations of the Society of Apothecaries.

‘7th.—I gave an introductory lecture to the course, “On the most interesting facts connected with the organisation and functions of animals.”

‘11th.—Mr. Haydon and the Rev. T. Birkett and Mr. Keist spent the evening with us.

‘12th.—Heard Mr. Haydon lecture at the Mechanics' Institution, “On the muscles in action in the human subject.”

‘24th.—The Queen proclaimed in Manchester. Mr. Haydon left Manchester. General mourning commenced for the King.

‘30th.—A meeting of medical men from Manchester, Liverpool, Warrington, and adjacent places, was held at Newton, for the purpose of forming a local or district association. Dr. Holme filled the chair, there being present



about forty gentlemen, who enrolled themselves as members. Anna and the children went to Crosby.

‘*July.*—My brother Edmund has been returned for Truro, in lieu of Mr. Tooke, who is thrown out.

‘*August 4.*—Sir George Ballinghall, Professor of Military Surgery, Edinburgh, called upon me; likewise Mr. Stoner, Deputy-Inspector, who spent the evening with me. Introduced by Dr. Somerville.

‘*28th.*—Mr. Joseph Ransome was appointed Lecturer on Surgery at the school, as the successor of his late father.

‘*September 1.*—Received a very handsome gold snuff-box from Mr. Hilton, of Swinton, one of my old anatomical pupils. This is another gratifying mark of esteem.

‘*20th.*—Sir A. Cooper called upon me. I accompanied him to the Museum, with which he seemed much delighted. Afterwards we went to the Infirmary. Lady Cooper was with him at the hotel, where he introduced me to her.

‘*October.*—During this month I have had very many operations in hospital and private practice.

‘*December.*—Mr. Plummer died.’

About this time Mr. Turner was greatly affected by the death of a very promising young man, who was in the medical profession, and in whom he took a deep interest; and the following entries have reference to his sad removal:—

‘*25th.*—Poor Player died of fever.

‘*29th.*—Poor Player was interred at All Saints’. The funeral was attended by his father, brother, Dr. J. Newbold, Mr. Gaskell, Mr. Smith, myself, and the apprentices of the Infirmary.

‘*31st.*—Wrote Sister Plummer a letter of condolence on the death of poor Plummer.

‘*April 6, 1838.*—The Rev. C. Girdlestone and his lady spent this day with us, also part of the 7th. Had family devotion in the evening. From this time we resolve upon having it regularly.

‘Received a handsome piece of plate from Mrs. Holbrooke for my attendance on her late excellent husband.



‘Mrs. Turner went to spend three days at Alderley Rectory (14th, 15th, 16th). She seemed to derive great pleasure from her visit to this beautiful spot.

‘28th.—Concluded my winter lectures, and awarded the prizes.

‘First prize, Mr. Hall, of Congleton.

‘Second prize, Mr. Winterbottom, of Bolton.

‘Third prize, Mr. Booth, of Chowbent.

‘*May*.—During this month I have been much occupied in the arrangement of papers, &c., and have been much engaged in practice.

‘*June 5, 6, 7*.—Very much occupied in arranging my papers, with a view to devote as much time as possible to my report on the “Rise and Progress of Provincial Schools,” which I am requested by the Council of the Medical Association to draw up, and present, at the meeting to be held at Bath on the 18th of July of this year.

‘*August 3*.—Mr. and Mrs. Girdlestone spent the day with us. My Anna had returned from Crosby in order to meet them.

‘*6th*.—Mr. and Mrs. G. dined with us on their return from Deane, where he had been preaching a charity sermon.

‘*20th*.—In the evening went to Crosby, to break the awful event of Mr. Richard Smith’s sudden death, to my dear Anna. Had much conversation with my Anna and her excellent father on the uncertainty of life, and the necessity of being always prepared for death. I was much affected by the family prayers this evening.

‘*21st*.—Paid a painful visit to Mrs. Smith and dear William, at Moss Cottage. Wrote Sister Plummer, and Edmund.

‘*24th*.—Went to Moss Cottage, to see dear Mary and Betsey. Had a most heartrending visit.

‘*25th*.—Received a letter from my dearest wife offering her affectionate consolation to me on the present trying occasion. It comforted me much. I feel this day as though the scenes of distress which I have to witness were overpowering my spirits, and impairing my health.

‘*26th*.—Passed the day with my dear Anna and children at Crosby. Returned in the evening.



‘27th.—The remains of poor Smith interred in a vault at All Saints’. *A day of bitter distress to all.* Went to Crosby in the evening.

‘September 6.—My dear wife and children returned from Crosby. Mr. Clarke left us for London.

‘27th.—Went to Mitholme, to fetch my Anna and daughter, where they had been spending two days with Mrs. Noble. We enjoyed ourselves very much, in ramb-ling about the neighbourhood, which is very pretty.

‘30th.—Went with my Anna to hear Mr. M’Grath, and was much pleased and edified with his discourse.

‘October 1.—Our school session commenced with an introductory address by Mr. Ransome. Our museum at the school is an object of great attraction and admiration.

‘2nd.—Delivered my introductory lecture.

‘November 24.—Received a copy of a work on the “Philosophy of Medicine,” by Mr. Harrison, who has honoured me by dedicating it to me.

‘December.—In concluding the year I humbly pray to lead in future a better life. My anxieties during the past year in reference to the illness of my dearest Anna, to the circumstances of my widowed sister, Mary Plummer, and her children, and my orphan nephew and nieces, have brought me to more serious reflections on the transiency of human happiness. . . . . May it please God to assist me in keeping the resolution to go hand-in-hand with my dearest wife in promoting, by example and pre-cept, the cause of religion, which is the only true source of consolation in distress of mind, in pain, and on the approach of death. How much religion smoothes the ruffled pillow of death! I have often witnessed it—may I too experience it.

‘January, 1839.—Through the month I have had a great deal of anxiety. . . . . It is said to “be good to have trials and afflictions in this life,” and I feel it is so; my mind is more seriously than ever brought to the conviction, that in earthly joys and pleasures there is no certainty, and therefore no true and substantial happiness.

‘February 8.—At a quarter past 5 A.M. my dearest Anna presented me with a sweet little boy—to be named Edmund.



‘*March 2.*—The anniversary of our wedding-day. May God grant that my Anna and I may be long spared for each other, and for our dear children.

‘*April 25.*—I have been much occupied in practice, having many bad cases, some of which have been at great distances from home. Have done very little in composition this month.

‘*30th.*—Finished my lectures for the season. Awarded prizes.

‘*May.*—Very much occupied in practice during the early part of this month.

‘*15th.*—We christened our dear little baby, named Edmund (after my father) Clarke Turner. The service was performed at St. Ann’s, by the Rev. W. H. M’Grath. The sponsors were Mrs. Ormerod, Rev. C. Girdlestone, and Mr. Jones Wilkinson, all of whom dined with us.

‘*June 1.*—I operated for popliteal aneurism, with great ease, and with success.

‘*2nd.*—Professor Jones, of King’s College, who witnessed the operation yesterday, breakfasted with me this morning. . . . .

‘*July.*—During the early part of this month I have employed my leisure-time in arranging materials for my paper on Provincial Medical Education.

‘My dear wife and children went to Buxton about the middle of the month.

‘*18th.*—My darling little Anna’s birthday, born 1827; is now, therefore, twelve years of age. How blest have we been with all our children! I went to Buxton on purpose to spend the day.

‘*24th.*—Went to Liverpool, to the meeting of the Association. Dined at the President’s (Dr. Jefferey), where I met several distinguished men. In the evening I presented my memorial to the College.

‘*25th.*—Spent the day at Liverpool. Dined with the Association in the evening. . . . .

‘*August.*—During this month I have been much occupied in arranging my MSS. and papers. Have several times visited Buxton, where I saw a great many of the nobility, and had the honour of being consulted by Lord Abercrombie, who afterwards visited me in Manchester.



He is the eldest son of General Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and resides near Stirling. . . . .

‘26th.—Stopped at Buxton. . . . . Yesterday there was a collection at the church, where it is the custom for ladies of rank to collect. Upon this occasion the Marchioness of Tavistock, who one day will in all probability be the Duchess of Bedford, officiated with the plate.

‘September.—I have had much anxiety about my dearest wife’s illness, which has detained her at Buxton.

‘13th.—Returned from Buxton with my Anna and the dear children. The former (thank God) is in some measure recovered from her late illness, but is still very weak. The latter are quite well. . . . .

‘Mr. Clarke (Anna’s father) has taken up his residence with us, and a happy acquisition to our family circle is he likely to prove.

‘19th.—Rev. C. Girdlestone and Mrs. G. passed the day with us.

‘22nd.—Heard Rev. F. Hooper, at St. Ann’s, on the text, “Prepare to meet thy God.” Was much pleased. He dwelt on the history of the Israelites, their frequent warnings, their heedlessness, and their future destiny. The facts connected with the Jews he adduced as full proofs of the truth of the Bible, as every prediction had been verified. He applied the subject to ourselves, in reference to our warnings, trials, dispensations, as being unheeded, and to the fear of our being overtaken when unprepared, “to meet our God.” May the arguments which he used, and the force of his expressions and admonitions, have their due effect upon *my* future conduct.

‘26th.—Attended a meeting of the Protestant Association, held in the theatre, and heard Dr. O’Sullivan, Mr. Stowell, Dr. Cooke, and Mr. McNeile speak most ably on the subject of Protestantism. The meeting lasted from 11 to between 6 and 7 in the evening.

‘October 1.—Opening of the winter session by Mr. Hunt.

‘2nd.—Delivered my introductory lecture.

‘During this month I have been a good deal occupied in school and private arrangements. . . . .



‘*December.*—Much occupied in practice all the month ; engaged all my leisure time in composition, &c.

‘Having now finished another year of my life, and I trust with more real profit in every way than the past, I cannot be too grateful for the prosperity and blessings which have been heaped upon me. Amidst all my happiness and success every day’s experience tells me that temporal matters can bear no comparison with those which are eternal. I pray to be more zealous in the great concerns of eternity.

‘*January, 1840.*—I have formed for myself various resolutions which I trust it will be in my power to keep. I have this month been much occupied in the arrangement of private papers, &c. . . . .

‘*February.*—My father-in-law, Mr. Clarke, is becoming alarmingly ill. My private papers, lectures, and other arrangements, have engrossed a good deal of my time this month.

‘*March.*—My dearest wife has been ill, but thank God she has been restored to health, to me, and to our dear children. My anxiety has been great on her account, inso-much that I have been unable to attend to anything but urgent professional business. . . . .

‘*April.*—Devoted a good deal of this month to private study connected with my MSS., &c.

‘During this month I have felt more comfort and confidence in matters which concern my eternal peace.

‘The illness of Mr. C. has given occasion for more than ordinary reflection.’

It has been previously stated that Mrs. Turner lost her mother in the year 1833. The desolation which this event cast over her father’s home, was deeply felt by Mrs. Turner ; and as from time to time he visited her, the desire deepened in her heart that they might spend together all that remained to him now of life, for symptoms of failing health had been for some time past, unmistakeably manifest. It need scarcely be added that, with his usual kindness, Mr. Turner warmly sympathised in his wife’s feelings, and the arrangement which has been previously noted in the diary was therefore made, viz., that Mr. Clarke



should take up his residence under the roof of his son-in-law. The intercourse which Mr. Turner's family enjoyed with this good man was of the very happiest character, and a few particulars in reference to it, and of his last illness, will now be given.

“I always feel glad,” writes one of Mr. Turner's daughters, “that I remember dear grandpapa. The impression which he made upon my childish heart never will be effaced, and I often think how very beautiful that character must have been, the gentle chiselling of which has become so indelibly fixed upon the heart and memory of one as young as I then was. I never recollect him otherwise than with the pallid look of an invalid, but the language of complaint was entirely foreign to those lips. No doubt, we were at times, as noisy and troublesome as most children are wont to be; but I never saw that calm brow ruffled, or heard him speak an impatient word. I loved him dearly, and wondered, in even those childish days, at the perfection of that self-control which had become so habitual, as almost to suggest the doubt as to whether any of the old evil nature, which we have all derived from our first parents, remained within him to be kept under. /

“I did not understand (as I now do) the secret of his imperturbable calm, and his deep peace. That he naturally possessed, in addition to very intellectual and cultivated tastes, a temper of peculiar sweetness and serenity, I feel sure; but I know now that it was *grace* which adjusted all, and gave him the wonderful victory which he achieved over all the fretting and trying circumstances which necessarily intrude in every-day life. #

“From my dear mother I learnt, that for some time previous to his departure, he suffered much pain, but I cannot recal that I ever heard him speak of anything that he endured. “Shall we receive good at the hand of the Lord, and shall we not also receive evil?” was, I am persuaded, the feeling with which he accepted all the discipline of his life.

“At last it became evident his end was approaching, and, as one of the children of the family, I was sent away from



home with the rest, under the care of a relative, whilst my dear father and mother remained with the invalid. His sufferings were now very great, but were endured with unwavering patience, and the summons at last came. If I remember accurately the account which I received from my dear mother's lips, the power of speech was taken away for several hours before he died, but the eyes were raised heavenwards, with an expression of such earnest and ecstatic joy, that it seemed as if a vision of eternal glory could alone explain their wondrous expression; and so, trusting in Jesus, he passed away in his sixty-first year.'

Mr. Turner thus alludes in his diary to this bereavement:—

'*May.*—Mr. Clarke died on the 9th, in full hope of future happiness. This has been a season of sorrow to all of us, especially to my dearest Anna, who has lost her only parent; but she has found consolation and resignation in religion, that never-failing source of comfort. Mr. Clarke was interred at All Saints', on Thursday, the 14th. His sons, Charles and Alfred, came down from London to the funeral.

'During the early part of the month, M. A. Plummer and the dear children went to Crosby, where my Anna joined them a few days after the funeral.

'*June.*—A month of anxiety and sorrow, in consequence of the illness of dear little Edmund, at Crosby. My mind during the month has been so unstrung, as to be incapable of attending to anything save works of necessity. Went to Crosby very often.

'*July.*—The children and M. A. Plummer went to Poulton, where they were joined early in August by Mrs. Turner.

'*August.*—During this month engaged in writing for my system of Medico-Chirurgical Science, to which I have devoted all my leisure-time.

'A meeting held at the school, when it was decided that I should give the introductory address for the forthcoming session.

'*September.*—Spent in private study; much professional occupation, and preparation of papers, &c. . . . .



‘*October 1.*—Gave an introductory address, which was well received, and published at length in the papers; also in the “*Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal,*” of London, a short-hand writer having been sent down to take notes.’ . . . . .

One of the reports thus furnished is as follows, and will be presented to the reader, on account of the unusual interest of its subject-matter. The editor thus prefaces his narrative of the address:—

‘The winter session of this, the first in point of time, and we might add (according to the unbiassed estimates of high professional men) the first in point of merit, of provincial medical schools—now the only school of medicine in this town, since the session in its favour of that in Marsden Street—commenced on Thursday last, when Mr. Turner delivered the usual introductory address of the session. The attendance of the students and their friends was large; and previous to the address, they were invited to take a hasty glance at the now very large, valuable, and highly interesting museum of human and comparative anatomy; preparations exhibiting healthy and diseased states of various organs of the body; casts, in plaster and wax, illustrating both healthy and morbid conditions of the various bones, organs, and processes; and coloured drawings, engravings, and diagrams of many singular cases, illustrative, both of the pathology of disease, and of the healthy functions of the human frame. To increase this valuable collection, the museum of Mr. Gregory Smith, a lecturer at the Windmill Street School of Medicine, London, has been purchased and added to it; and the medical library, for the use of the students, has received a large and valuable accession, by that of the late School of Medicine in Marsden Street having been presented to the Pine Street school.

‘The school thus opens its winter session, with even more than its usual attractions and inducements, for students in the medical profession. But we must not anticipate the subject of Mr. Turner’s interesting address, portions of which we report, as of general interest.



‘Mr. Turner commenced his observations, which were wholly extemporaneous, in the following terms:—

“Gentlemen,—This is the fourth time that I have had the honour of appearing before you to deliver the introductory address, at the opening of the session of this school. The first time was in 1825, now fifteen years ago, when this school was fully organised, and when I had to perform a difficult task. The period, it was thought, had then arrived, when it was necessary to extend the plan of medical education, in order to meet the intellectual activity of the times in which we live. The manner in which the proposal was received was encouraging in some quarters, in others, discouraging. However, success followed our endeavours, and very soon there manifested itself that break of dawn which has now issued in perfect day. The second occasion on which I had to appear before you to deliver an introductory address, was at the opening of this institution. Some of you will remember that the *original* Pine Street school occupied only one-half of the site of the present building, and was entered only by the street behind. We have been unwilling to relinquish a name to which some importance, and, I flatter myself, some degree of celebrity was attached, and we have therefore designated it, and shall continue to designate it, ‘The Pine Street School.’ We undertook to raise this building at our own expense, and thereby give an unequivocal proof of our zeal in the cause of medical education. The third occasion on which I had an opportunity of appearing before you, was to announce the retirement of Mr. Jordan, as an anatomical lecturer, the duties of which office he had usefully and satisfactorily discharged for a period of nearly twenty years; and he was pleased to bequeath to this institution his best wishes and interests. And now I am deputed by my colleagues to appear before you, to open the budget for the present season, and it gives me unmixed pleasure to say that the cause which has separated the profession and the town for years past, in reference to medical education, has ceased to exist.

“The gentlemen connected with the Marsden Street school have resigned their duties; and they have mani-



fested towards this institution the most unequivocal evidence of good feeling, in the circumstance of their having consigned over to us their library, for the benefit of our society; and, as an act of reciprocity, we have received their students within our walls. This reciprocal feeling must testify very strongly that the opposition between us, as rival schools, had never been carried on with that bitter and unforgiving enmity which too often marks the course of rivals; and it will show, moreover, that there is nothing incompatible in the association of rivalry with friendship. And now that we are in sole possession of the ground wherein to sow the seeds of medical knowledge in this district—in possession, directly or indirectly, of the influence of our medical brethren, and of the town—we cannot doubt that the harvest will be abundant; but we must ever bear in mind that this result will be determined by the seed-time. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that we should all co-operate in the diligent cultivation of the soil, and in sowing the best possible seed, in compliance with the truth, on unerring authority, that “according as we sow, so shall we reap.” And, lastly, it behoves us to state unequivocally, that our success will depend upon the manner in which we may cultivate the minds of the rising members of our profession.

“To secure a good medical education does not rest with an individual, but with three parties—the parent, the teachers in connection with the medical school, and the student himself; and by their co-operation the complete scheme of medical education, to the widest and most useful extent, can be carried on within the limits of this town; but early habits, impressions, and associations, are most important in their bearing upon subsequent medical education. . . . Passing from considerations appertaining to the preliminary education of the medical student, I would say that his professional education must commence with his professional career. Obvious as this appears, it is a principle which was not acted upon until the establishment of Provincial Medical Schools, before which time (and even now, in certain obscure situations) it is to be



regretted that the period of apprenticeship was almost universally passed in a most unprofitable way. . . . .

A degree of excitement is necessary to the energetic performance of all the duties of life, whether religious, moral, literary, or scientific. In the absence of this excitement there is apathy—the individual wants that something which leads to exaltation of character. †

“Excitement, and emulation, when felt by students, raises their energies in a marked degree, as evinced daily by the pupils of this institution. In the absence of these incentives there will be no ambition, which, in its virtuous sense, may be defined to be a love of excellence. If proof were needed of the importance and advantages of Provincial Medical Schools, I might quote a great mass of documentary evidence, particularly various passages from the ‘Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal,’ containing an article on the Apothecaries’ Act; from other journals of the day, and from the evidence before the House of Commons—all proving that these schools have not been brought into operation for nothing, and that the labour bestowed in the provinces on medical education has been crowned with success, in enhancing in some measure the learning and dignity of the rising members of the profession. But some arguments have been urged against Provincial Medical schools. In a review of the introductory address, delivered by the Rev. — Thomas, upon Moral Philosophy, at the Birmingham Medical School, the reviewer, speaking of the published pamphlet by Mr. Thomas, says ‘that it would be wrong to conceal that medical practitioners in the country, viewed provincial schools with some dislike, and avowed their belief that, by rendering medical education too cheap and easy, they tended to fill country towns with ill-educated practitioners.’ Are these allegations true? No. Is education in Manchester cheaper than elsewhere? No. In France, a medical education costs nothing; in Dublin, scarcely anything; in Glasgow, not half what it costs in Manchester; in Edinburgh, less than in Manchester. But will any man say that the French and Germans (who are in the same category), the Irish and the Scotch, are ill-educated or unskilful



practitioners? I think all must admit the reverse to be the fact. Sir Astley Cooper, in his evidence before a committee of the House of Commons, has stated something on the subject well worth reading. Mr. Warburton, the chairman of the committee, asked Sir Astley, 'How would a reduction of the present expensive education be productive of evil to the profession?' Sir Astley had before intimated that such was his opinion. 'I think, under these circumstances,' the worthy baronet replied, 'persons of all descriptions would enter the profession, and *that* would be exceedingly degrading.' . . . . .

' "Dignity in the medical profession is not purchaseable by pecuniary means or rank; of how much evil would not this be productive? Where would be the incentive to industry, rivalry, and emulation, and the operation of a right ambition? If such were the pre-requisites to medical honour and dignity in this country, a Hunter would never have been the glory of that country, nor a Dalton our admired townsman. Another, and better way of dignifying the medical profession, is to place within the reach of students, a good education. If I were to draw up a code of laws for the regulation of such education, I would make every student undergo a preliminary examination, before he entered the profession, as to his scholastic and general attainments. These he should go through before a competent board of examiners; and if found eligible he should be admitted into the ranks of medical students. He should again undergo examination when he had attained a knowledge of, what might be considered, the fundamental principles of his profession, after a lapse of two or three years; and then he should have a final examination or two, which should be the test of his competency. ¶ I have no objection to an aristocracy in the medical profession, but I would not have that aristocracy founded on family distinctions, rank, or money, but on hard-earned reputation. ¶ But to return to the reviewer of Mr. Thomas' pamphlet. Is there any evidence of the learning and skill of the profession having suffered diminution by the establishment of Provincial Medical Schools? On the contrary, I have evidence given before the committee of the House of



Commons to show, that in 1823, when provincial schools did not exist, the curriculum of medical education was extremely imperfect; that, upon examination, the numbers rejected were one in ten; and that with the increased curriculum required in 1833 and since, and with the more severe examinations which the students are obliged now to undergo—the number of candidates for diplomas being also doubled—the fact is that the rejections have averaged only one in fifteen; and now, most men who go up for examination pass the College of Surgeons. Is this a proof that the profession has become more undignified, or more ignorant? Do we not possess in this town the means of giving a medical education equal to that which is received in London, Edinburgh, or Dublin? To impart such an education it is necessary to have the teaching of anatomy, physiology, pathology, chemistry, botany, the *materia medica*, the practice of physic, surgery, midwifery, forensic medicine, and the other branches of medical science. Do we not possess ample means for teaching these? Anatomy is admitted to be the alphabet of medicine, the *sine quâ non* of physiology, and indispensable to a knowledge of the nature, character, and treatment of diseases. What are the means for teaching anatomy? Dissection, practical anatomy, and illustrations (in the form of a museum, containing specimens, plates, diagrams, and drawings), for the elucidation of the respective courses of lectures, and the information of the classes. As to practical anatomy, our means are equal to any medical school in the country—superior to most. With respect to illustrations, I have the pleasure of stating that I have purchased the museum of Mr. Gregory Smith, a lecturer in the Windmill Street Medical School, and successor to one of the most eminent of men—John Hunter. I can say, without fear of contradiction, that the Pine Street school has now the largest museum in the provinces, and that there is not a larger one in London, except that of the College of Surgeons, which was founded by the immortal Hunter. The Pine Street collection of specimens now falls very little short of ten thousand. We have not large halls, saloons, and places in which to display them, and there-



fore they do not appear to such advantage as they might ; but this is a defect which we hope ere long to remedy. [Pointing to a small oval table, painted green, and set on small wooden wheels, which stood near him, Mr. Turner said]: Excuse my making a digression, and directing your attention to that table. Mean-looking, insignificant, intrinsically of no value, as it is, it was the table of John Hunter. That is John Hunter's dissecting-table. It would seem almost as if the glory of London anatomy were travelling northward, and that we had arrested it in Manchester. It is more than likely that on that very table, John Hunter prepared some of those splendid specimens which now enrich the walls of the Museum of the College of Surgeons. And may we not, with a little imagination, suppose that, whilst so engaged, his master-mind conceived the beautiful design and arrangement of his museum, which had in view the illustration of life from the most simple organic atom in which life is found to exist, up to that most complicated and beautiful piece of mechanism, man? . . . . . Let us now, therefore, that we possess a relic of that great man, be stimulated by the associations it awakens to pursue the same path that he pursued."

'In conclusion Mr. Turner addressed some excellent exhortations and advice to the medical students present, pointing out the duties they owed to the parents or guardians who, at considerable expense, had placed them in a dignified profession; to the teachers, whose highest reward would be to see them successful, as the consequence of honourable effort, in the acquisition of a good medical education; to the profession which they had selected, to the community, and to themselves. In addition to the moral qualifications of honour, liberality, and humanity, they must use unwearied industry—their profession must be their first concern; and having once entered upon their medical studies, their whole lives, to the latest period, must be one continued pursuit of knowledge.'

Mr. Turner was indeed a striking exemplification himself of the principles thus inculcated by him. He was truly a student, from the commencement of his



professional career in Bristol, until the close of his long life. His zeal in the acquisition of knowledge never flagged, but the extent of his unwearied diligence was only fully made known after his decease. Upon this subject his son-in-law, the Rev. W. H. Hamilton, writes:—

‘As one of the executors of the late Mr. Turner, it was a part of my duty, after his death, to look over his papers. In doing so, I was particularly struck with their number and variety. Shelf above shelf, containing parcel upon parcel, classified and arranged in the most orderly manner, testified in an unmistakeable way, to his lifelong industry; whilst the variety of subjects upon which he had made such ample notes, was truly remarkable; not only on subjects which related (directly or indirectly) to his own loved profession, but also to others of a miscellaneous character, whilst remarks on the best of subjects were not omitted. Mr. Turner’s papers certainly impressed me with this fact, that from youth even to old age, in the vast domain of knowledge, he had ever been a diligent and painstaking student, and a no less faithful and industrious chronicler of the lessons which he had learned.’

Mr. Turner’s love for the study of natural history has been previously noted, and it may not be out of place to introduce here the following striking remarks made by him upon the distinction existing between instinct and reason, a subject the investigation of which, had peculiar charms for him:—

‘Instinct is not the result of education, imitation, or instruction, nor is it improved by experience; it needs positive sensation, as seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, or touch. It requires a nervous centre, to which the impression received upon the senses shall be transferred, and, to stimulate this nervous centre, an impulse; and that there shall be an instrument capable of acting under the influence which the impulse has communicated. If these remarks, then, are founded upon truth, can we be at a loss to determine the difference between instinct and reason? If we take instinct in its simplest form, and



reason in its highest, the distinctions are quite obvious. Instinct and reason agree in the circumstance of their being connate—that is, born with us—and in their *not* being the result of imitation. But look at the influence of imitation upon the powers of the mind, and mark its effect there; whereas it has positively *no* influence on instinct. The child is an imitative creature; it lays hold of everything that attracts its attention, and is biassed by it, whether for good or for evil. Positive sensation is demanded for the development of instinct, which I consider requires a chain of circumstances consisting of three links—sensation—impulse—action. A bird, for example, from sensation, has its organ of instinct stimulated to act, and, by means of the instruments with which nature has endowed it, it builds its nest, and the impulse is such as not to be arrested—the individual has no will in it. So strong is instinct in this respect, that if a migrating bird be confined in a cage at the period when it should migrate, when the instinct is ripe for being called into action, the bird will beat itself to pieces in its prison in its endeavours to obey the impulse which stimulates it to migrate. Reason, also, is a chain composed of many links. Like instinct, it begins with sensation, and terminates in action, or not, according to the will. The will gives the controlling influence over all other proceedings. A man may arrest his thoughts at a particular point, or he may, by his reasoning powers, carry out his thoughts till he arrives at a conclusion, and he may act, or otherwise, according to the dictates of his will, in obedience to the conclusion at which he has arrived. The distinction, then, appears to be perfectly clear, if we examine instinct and reason, with respect to their influence and requirements. In all the acts of the mind there is a chain of circumstances composed of links, few or many in number, rising in the scale, through instinct, moral feeling,—associated with which is will,—and intellect, associated with which is will too. Now, I have to ask the question, have animals reason? It is said by some writers that animals are impelled to act by their instinct; man by his reason. This is erroneous. Some animals have a shade of reason, some



are purely instinctive ; and man is an instinctive, as well as a reasoning animal. But animals have in their nature a *supremacy* of instinct over reason, and the properly educated and trained man has a *power, by his reason, over his instincts*. With respect to the ground upon which to proceed in determining whether animals have instinct or not, I might mention many interesting anecdotes, showing that reason, or acts dependent upon deliberation, are performed by certain animals. All animals below fishes, are entirely destitute of reason. The fish has some little, the reptile a little more, birds have a slightly increased amount ; and mammals, especially the dog, the horse, and the elephant, have a share of reason. But what is the reason of animals in comparison with the reason of man ? Reason in man enables him to admire the brilliant orbs above, and to read in them, the evidences of the Creator's wisdom and power ; it makes him acquainted with the whole habitable world ; it develops to him the peculiarities of every clime ; it leads him at once to declare that there is in nature design, and therefore a designer. It is incontrovertible that man is the only animal that can "look through nature up to nature's God." But, with all the boasted reason of man, he is instinctive too, and throughout the early phases of his existence, he manifests impulses which are permanent conditions in animals that rank below him. At the period of birth, man is purely instinctive ; he takes his food, moves and cries, and does all instinctively. But the germs of moral feeling, will, and reason, are there, and at a given time, moral feeling develops itself in the child, requiring, however, the watchful eye of the mother to guide it. Then appear the glimmerings of reason—so faint as scarcely to be perceptible, except to the parent, who always sees more than any other individual—indeed, so faint are the scintillations of reason in a child of three years old, that it is estimated not to possess so much as as an ourang-outang at the adult period of its life. But the germ is there, and it goes on expanding, regulated by proper impulses, until reason becomes the master of instinct, far superior in character to that which we can ever



see in connection with an animal, because the destiny of man is that which animals can never reach.'

We return to Mr. Turner's diary:—

'*December*, 1840.—My anxieties are lessened; the blessing of health has been restored to those for whom I mainly live.

'*January*, 1841.—The year has begun happily, and my family are in the enjoyment of health. I have been much engaged professionally. Numerous surgical operations—seven in one day, being the greatest number that ever fell to my lot. . . . .

'*February*.—During this month I have been regular and diligent in my attendance upon the means of grace, and I feel that I have profited by them. The love of my Bible increases. . . . .

'*March 16*.—Heard Mr. Close, of Cheltenham, at St. Ann's; a missionary sermon, from the Acts, St. Paul's visit to Athens. Mr. C. dwelt on the difficulties and dangers which St. Paul and the disciples had to encounter in their early endeavours to convert the heathen to Christianity, and showed how favoured missionaries now are in comparison with those of ancient times.

'*22nd*.—Depressed in spirits to-day, but know not why; perhaps for good. Have read with feeling the 42nd Psalm twice over. It is consolatory, from referring to what I am persuaded is the mainstay of our hope in imaginary, as well as real trial: "Trust thou in God."

'*April*.—During this month I have been a good deal occupied in school matters, having lectured double the usual amount of time, in order to get finished by the end of the month. The month has not passed so profitably as I could have wished, owing to numerous interferences. Have taken Ashfield, for two years, in the hope that a sandy soil may be the means of relieving my dearest wife of some of her rheumatic sufferings. . . . .

'*May*.—My dear Anna and the children went to Bowdon on the 4th, where, after about two weeks, the children caught the measles. My dearest wife became ill from an attack of rheumatic fever. A more anxious and harassing time I scarcely ever experienced; but,



thank God, all our dear children have escaped with safety. I have frequently felt of late what wretched creatures we should be, if we had not a source of solace in our distress and anxieties, beyond what is sublunary.

‘*June.*—My dear wife and children were all the month at Bowdon. All convalescent, thank God.

‘*July.*—Mrs. Turner and the children returned from Bowdon to go to Ashfield, on Tuesday, the 6th. All well. I augur favourably of the situation as regards the health of my family.

‘*August, 1841.*—Have had much during this month to occupy my attention, but have felt out of spirits and out of health. Some circumstances have given me much concern and anxiety, but I hope, by trusting in the power of Him who cannot err, that these trials will serve some useful purpose; indeed, I feel that mentally they have done me good, although they have pained my heart, and wounded my feelings. What miserable creatures we are when we rest our whole hope of happiness on the quicksand of earthly enjoyment, and earthly prosperity! My dearest Anna has, upon this occasion, as upon every other, been a source of great comfort to me.

‘*September.*—Finding that anxiety of mind was impairing my health, and making my dearest Anna and other friends anxious about me, I resolved on leaving home for the purpose of relaxation. My dear wife, little Emma, and myself set off on the 1st of September, for Aberystwith, in South Wales, where we remained ten days, but were absent altogether about fifteen days. We went to Crewe station by railway, and then posted through Ellesmere (a pretty place) and Welshpool (where we visited Powis Castle) to Newtown, where we slept the first night. On the following morning we proceeded to the Devil’s Bridge, where we slept. This is indeed a romantic spot. On the Thursday we went to Aberystwith and took lodgings in the Marine Crescent, where we remained ten days, and returned by Aberdovey to Dolgelly, Bala, Llangollen, and home, finding all our dear children well and happy. I might record much in reference to this tour. Freed from anxiety as to professional matters, I felt anxious



about other things appertaining to myself. . . . . I am often unhappy in having made no progress in "the one thing needful." I must pray for a change of heart, for, in spite of the happiest home that man can ever have, blessed as I am with a wife whom I fondly love, and children too who are everything I can wish, there is still something wanting to make me superlatively happy; but to be so, would be to abrogate the word of God, who has destined our lot on earth to be afflictive. "Man is born to trouble as the sparks fly upward"—the decree of original sin.

'*October.*—Our school was opened on the 1st by Dr. J. L. Bardsley. The school building in Pine Street not being completed,<sup>1</sup> the introductory lectures were delivered at the Royal Institution. I delivered mine on the 4th. The Rev. C. Girdlestone, and Rev. H. W. M'Grath, and others (non-professional, or rather non-medical) were present. During this month, various studies and points of practice have occupied my mind. My attendance at church has, I hope, been blessed to me.

'*November.*—Nothing worthy of particular record has occurred this month.

'*December.*—My dearest wife and children returned from the cottage (Ashfield) in the first week. No circumstance worthy of note has occurred. Professional business has been urgent, and has engrossed a good deal of my time, but I still hope I have not altogether, or more culpably than usual, neglected the means of benefiting my mind in reference to the better part of it, which will continue after my frail frame has crumbled into dust. . . . . What, at the close of another year, can I record with respect to my progress in earthly, and in heavenly things?

'*Friday night, Dec. 31, 1841.*—This brings me to the termination of another year, spent, I fear, too much engrossed in things of time; but I do sincerely hope that I am making some progress in the path of a religious life, so far as conviction goes of its being the only true source of happiness here, as hereafter. I dare not flatter myself with much advance, but I trust I am more earnest in

<sup>1</sup> Further alterations had been found necessary for the convenient carrying on of the school.



prayer, more watchful of offending God, more unhappy in the commission of sin, and in the omission of my religious duties.

‘On Christmas Day I ventured on taking the Holy Sacrament, and felt, I hope, comforted by it. It seems to have fixed more securely my resolve to lead a better life. May God, who alone can give me grace, assist me in keeping the resolutions I have formed in thus entering on another year, and may He confer His best blessings on me and mine. I hope I feel the fullest conviction of my sinful nature. Mrs. Fry says: “The conviction often precedes the consciousness of sin, and sometimes exists for awhile before it. Be not discouraged, but labour to know more. Look to Christ, and you will grow like him in the looking.” May this precept be deeply impressed upon my mind now that I have entered upon another year, which, by the grace of God, I hope to spend in a more profitable way than the past.

‘*January 17, 1842.*—This evening I was called to see Mr. Tucker (a late missionary in India), at Mr. C.’s, with whom I had some very interesting conversation. One fact mentioned by him was that India would, by-and-by, prove a most interesting and profitable field of conversion, as the Hindoos are becoming, in consequence of the various schools established by Protestants, very well informed, and already have their minds so far expanded as to see the folly of their own religious creed and worship, and to be losing confidence in them; but still they are not as yet so enlightened and prepared as to embrace Christianity. Mr. T., however, feels assured that at no distant period there will be a great accession to Christianity. Heber’s views seem to coincide with these.

‘*Tuesday, 18th.*—My dearest wife’s birthday; may it please God long to spare her to be the best and most affectionate wife, parent, and friend. Never did I feel her value more than at present. How my inclination would prompt me to enlarge on this subject, my heart and affection can alone answer.

‘Received a ring in memory of the late Mr. Gardner of the Priory.



‘*Saturday, 22nd.*—A full professional day.

‘*Sunday, 23rd.*—A good deal of my time was taken up in the case of poor ——.

‘*Tuesday, 25th.*—Signed poor ——’s certificate for removal to near L——. This is indeed a melancholy case, and has given me much concern and sympathy.

‘*Saturday, February 10.*—Went to —— Asylum, to see my poor patient, and on my arrival found his brother, Mr. ——, from London, with whom I had a painful but interesting interview. We visited the patient together, and from the rational way in which he spoke I am inclined to hope the excitement is wearing off; but doubtless, as in all cases of a similar kind, there must be much variableness. The meeting of the brothers, and their parting from each other, affected me deeply.

‘*Sunday, 13th.*—Two sermons were preached by Mr. M’Grath, from the 14th and 15th verses of the 3rd chapter of Genesis.

‘I was not able to attend the morning service, but attended that of the evening, when he gave a brief recapitulation of the morning’s discourse, and continued the subject—the enmity mentioned between the serpent and the woman. Mr. M’Grath dwelt on the continuance of this enmity: that as it was, so it is, and so it ever will be, until the second coming of Christ. The sermon was a very impressive one, and showed how impossible it is for a man to be in close union at the same time with the world, and with God.

‘*Wednesday, 16th.*—Poor Dr. Pendlebury died. How awful is death! This occurrence has affected me much. In the evening of this day, I went with my children to church, and heard a beautiful and instructive discourse from Mr. M’Grath on 1 Cor. iii. The chapter refers to Paul’s preaching to the Corinthian Church, accusing them of being still “babes,” and therefore requiring to be fed with *milk instead of meat*. He accuses them of being still carnal-minded, looking to Paul and Apollos as men (planter and waterer), whereas the glory should be given to God, who giveth the increase. Mr. M’Grath dwelt on the necessity of looking to the Creator, not to the creature. . . . .



‘21st.—Poor Dr. Pendlebury was interred. His colleagues at the Infirmary accompanied the funeral procession as far as Pendleton tollbar.

‘*Sunday, 27th.*—During this month I have read a great deal in the Bible, with the subject-matter of which I am anxious to make myself thoroughly acquainted. I find that the sacred volume and reading the lives of holy men are sources of the greatest profit, consolation, and encouragement to me. A sermon by the Rev. Hugh Stowell, upon the character of his father, preached in Christ Church, Salford, about five or six years ago, has afforded me much benefit.

‘*March 3.*—The anniversary of our wedding-day, a day which conferred on me the greatest of all earthly blessings. My dearest Anna, children, and self went to church in the evening. . . . .

‘*19th.*—Received to-day a letter from Elizabeth Plummer, announcing the death of my brother’s wife, an occurrence not unexpected, but rendered more melancholy by the fact of my brother not being at home at the time.

‘In the evening I wrote Edmund a letter of condolence on the afflicting bereavement which he had experienced, and on the sources from which he was to derive consolation in this hour of affliction. . . . .

‘*20th.*—Heard Mr. M’Grath from the 1st verse of the 8th of Romans: “There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.” A powerful sermon. . . . .

‘*April 1.*—Mr. and Mrs. Girdlestone slept at our house, and returned next day. Mr. G. presented his commentary to his godchild, my dear little Edmund. May the Lord bless this valuable gift to his instruction in religious truths.

‘*Sunday, 3rd.*—Took the sacrament with my dearest wife. Mr. M’Grath preached twice; in the morning from 1st Epistle of John, “If we say we have no sin,” &c. A sacramental sermon. In the evening from the 22nd chapter of Numbers, giving the history of the Prophet Balaam, from which he deduced much valuable matter of conduct and instruction.’



The diary from which the extracts now given have been selected (almost all those of a professional nature being omitted, as uninteresting to the general reader) closes abruptly on April 3, 1842, and was never resumed, the pressure of excessive professional engagement, no doubt, leading to its discontinuance, for during the greater part of the preceding year, it will probably have been remarked, that daily entries almost entirely cease, and a general notice of each month's occupation is substituted. From this date onward, a monthly notebook, which Mr. Turner carried about with him, and in which he briefly recorded professional matters of interest, and the date of any event which he especially wished to remember, appears to have taken the place of a diary.

Philanthropic objects (always possessing the deepest interest for him) largely occupied his attention also from this time, so that the history of many of these schemes of benevolence is interwoven with the entire record of his remaining most useful life, and will form the principal subject-matter of the next few chapters.



## CHAPTER XIII.

MANCHESTER ROYAL INSTITUTION—MR. TURNER MADE HONORARY PROFESSOR IN 1843—SEVERE ILLNESS—FIRST PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AT THE ROYAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE—ASHFIELD—THOUGHTS UPON EDUCATION—HENRY BAGLEY CLARKE—DEATH OF EDMUND TURNER, ESQ., M.P.—HOUSE AT WHALLEY RANGE—MARRIAGE OF MR. TURNER'S ELDEST DAUGHTER—VISIT OF THE QUEEN TO MANCHESTER—ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SANITARY ASSOCIATION.

THE Manchester Royal Institution had its origin in a meeting which was held in the Exchange-room, on Wednesday, October 1, 1823, presided over by Dr. Davenport Hulme; the object for which the meeting was convened being to 'establish an Institute for the Encouragement of the Fine Arts.' Three objects were placed before the attention of those assembled as worthy of accomplishment in the carrying out of their designs, viz.:—

'1. A collection of the best models in painting and sculpture.

'2. The opening of a channel through which the works of meritorious artists might be brought before the public.

'3. And, lastly, the encouragement of literary and scientific pursuits, by facilitating the delivery of popular courses of public lectures.'

The suggestions laid before the meeting were accepted, and a committee was formed for raising subscriptions, and carrying into effect the scheme thus inaugurated; Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., accepting the office of chairman.

Very modest views were entertained at first. It was in contemplation to purchase premises in King Street, and adapt them to the purposes of the Institution; but the appeal made to the public on its behalf was so liberally responded to, that this idea was soon abandoned,



and it was decided that a handsome building should be erected.

A design of Barry's was ultimately selected, and the present structure raised, at a cost of £22,000; but the sum altogether subscribed, amounted to upwards of £30,000, the land which the Institution occupies in Mosley Street being purchased for £3,000, and the remainder forming a fund for the carrying out of the objects of the Institution, in procuring works of art, &c. The amount required being so heavy, and great commercial depression meanwhile arising, considerable delay ensued; but the building was completed and opened in 1830.

Mr. Turner was one of the governors of the Institution; in the year 1843 he accepted the appointment of Honorary Professor of Physiology, and from this date until the year 1873, delivered a course of lectures annually within its walls, with the exception only of two years.

The late Dr. Crace Calvert (between whom and Mr. Turner existed a most cordial friendship, which ended only with life) was appointed Honorary Professor of Chemistry about five years later, and many interesting courses of lectures were delivered by them unitedly, a subject being selected which admitted alike of physiological and chemical illustration, the lectures being delivered alternately by Mr. Turner and Dr. Calvert. Further reference will, however, be made to this subject.

In 1843 Mr. Turner became a Fellow of the College of Surgeons, and about this time read a paper on 'Dislocations of the Astragalus, and Injuries of the Foot,' at a meeting of the Medical Society in Exeter, which paper was afterwards published in the 'Transactions' of the Association, and considered a standard treatise upon the subject with which it deals. Mrs. Turner was travelling with her husband at this time, and immediately after the meeting they went on into Cornwall, to visit Mr. Edmund Turner, M.P., in Truro. This was the last occasion upon which the brothers met.

In the early part of the year 1844, Mr. Turner had a very dangerous illness, and for many weeks hung between life and death. It was a severe attack of erysipelas, which



extended rapidly to the head, and at one time very little hope of recovery was entertained.

The all-wise and merciful Orderer of all human affairs did not, however, permit His servant's useful life to be thus suddenly cut short; and when, through His blessing upon the means employed, the crisis of the disease had passed, the natural vigour of constitution which Mr. Turner possessed manifested itself in the rapidity with which he rallied, so that after the lapse of a few weeks, all his professional duties were resumed.

In the autumn of this year, for the first time, there was a public distribution of the prizes gained by deserving medical students. It will be remembered that very early in the history of the school, Mr. Turner had established prizes, but hitherto they had been quietly awarded on the school premises. He felt, however, that it would excite the emulation of the pupils, and exercise a beneficial influence upon them in many ways, were an open acknowledgment of their merit to be made. He therefore invited Lord Francis Egerton (afterwards the Earl of Ellesmere) to preside at a *public* distribution on September 27, when the lecture-theatre of the Royal Institution was chosen as the place where the meeting should be convened. Lord Ashley (now Lord Shaftesbury) was at this time a guest at Worsley Hall, and accompanied Lord Egerton. Previous to the meeting, which took place at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, Mr. Turner entertained about a hundred friends at luncheon in his own residence, which was distant only a few yards from the Institution, Lord Egerton and Lord Ashley being among his guests.

The lecture-theatre was crowded in every part, and a most interesting meeting took place. A public dinner was given in the evening in honour of the event, at which Lord Brackley was also present. The successful termination of this first public distribution of prizes, and the happy effect which it seemed to produce upon the students, led to a continuance of these annual gatherings, which were held uninterruptedly until the year 1861, when Mrs. Turner's death occurred; and Mr. Turner, feeling unable



to meet his friends as usual, relinquished the meeting that year, and it was never resumed. During the whole of this period, however, the public distributions were attended with unabated interest and success, and upon every occasion from a hundred, to a hundred and fifty gentlemen, were previously received by Mr. Turner at his own residence, the late Emperor Louis Napoleon, then an exile in England, being entertained, at one time, with other guests, and accompanying Mr. Turner to inspect the valuable museum of the school, in which he showed much interest.

It has been mentioned that in the year 1840 a house called Ashfield, at Pendleton, one of the outskirts of Manchester, had been taken by Mr. Turner. Hitherto, for several months in the summer, he had been usually separated from his family, in consequence of their being away at the seaside Mr. Turner feeling it to be necessary for the benefit of the health of his wife and children. He would, as often as possible, upon these occasions join his family on the Saturday evening and remain with them until the Monday; but he now hoped that, having a residence in the country, where the summer months might be passed, and situated at a convenient distance from his town house, these long separations might be avoided. The arrangement succeeded admirably, and was a source of much enjoyment both to himself and to his family. From his youth Mr. Turner had formed the habit of early rising, and during the six months of the year, in which he now resided at Ashfield, half-past seven was fixed as the family breakfast-hour, though they often assembled at seven o'clock, and this enabled Mr. Turner to enjoy a walk in the garden before going into town. The whole of the Sunday was spent by the family in Mosley Street, as Mr. Turner still held his pew in St. Ann's Church; they therefore drove into town in the morning, and did not return to Ashfield until after the evening service. Very sunny memories are entertained by Mr. Turner's daughters of the six years during which this summer residence was retained; and it was at this period that an intimate friendship sprang up between the members of the late lamented Canon Stowell's family and Mr.



Turner's. A charming old lady, whose memory will be ever dear to the hearts of those who had the privilege of knowing her, and who was an aunt of Canon Stowell's (Mrs. Bell), lived very near Ashfield, and retaining all her early freshness of feeling, although advanced in age, loved to collect around her all the young people with whom she was acquainted. Mr. Turner's daughters enjoyed much happy intercourse with her, and very gratefully do they remember all the kindness which they received from this dear old friend of their youth.

During the last year in which the family resided at Ashfield, Mr. Turner received as an inmate beneath his roof, a nephew of his wife's, whose father was dead, and who had selected the medical profession as his path in life. Henry Bagley Clarke was a young man of great amiability, and of considerable promise, and was welcomed as a son, and a brother, into his uncle's house.

His choice of his future career had been a calm and unfettered one, and he entered upon the course of study which it entailed, with all the quiet energy of character which he possessed.

A graphic enumeration has been already given of the subjects with which a liberally educated medical man should be conversant, showing how wide a field of exertion opened itself before Henry Clarke's view; but in writing upon this subject, Mr. Turner further remarks:—

‘The medical and surgical profession is one requiring the exercise of the best faculties of the mind, and the cultivation of habits of careful reflection and comparison; and there is no profession requiring so *extensive* a range of knowledge.

‘First of all, the mind must be stored with all the requirements of the gentleman and the scholar; next with the laws and principles which constitute the man of science; and, lastly, with the peculiar studies necessary to make a sound and enlightened practitioner.

‘In short, in a profession like the medical it would be difficult to set the boundaries of classical and physical knowledge, and to say that beyond this limit they were useless. A vast preliminary education is necessary, and a heavy



responsibility rests upon every parent who fixes upon this profession for his son.

‘In medical education the first point to be attended to is the structure and functions of the human body, without an adequate knowledge of which, no man can form an opinion of the nature of disease. But research must be carried further. Man is only one species of half a million of which the animal world is composed; and although the most perfect harmony of structure and gradation exists in all, from the polyp to the human being, still it is only by comparative anatomy that man is able to understand clearly the link which he holds in the scale of nature.’

Notwithstanding Mr. Turner’s earnest advocacy of those habits of untiring industry the formation of which he felt to be essential to the student’s successful career, it was a subject upon which he wrote and spoke with a practical wisdom of which the following remarks may be regarded as a specimen, and in the course of which he also alludes to erroneous views entertained by many upon the connection necessarily existing between medicine and surgery:—

..... ‘I think it must be admitted that the greatest stimulus to industry in the pursuit of the medical profession, is a just sense of its importance. A student devoid of this, is not likely to benefit himself or others much, unless in a subsequent period of his life he is so placed that existing circumstances give birth to emulation—the next incentive to assiduity in literature as well as in medicine.

‘I call the first stage of medical education the *limited elementary*. And why? It is limited *necessarily*, and it is proper it should be so. Although the medical sciences comprehend a great number, all of which are indispensable, yet some are more urgently needful than others, and therefore it is proper to classify them. This classification ought not to be determined by caprice, or the likes and dislikes of the individual, but by *simplicity* and *necessity*, as well as by the opportunities now and then attached to certain situations, favouring the prosecution of certain studies.



‘The physician and surgeon are inseparably united in respect of study, and therefore to say that the education of the one must be regulated differently from that of the other, is to assert a *gross inconsistency*—a principle no doubt often worked out at the expense of the individual. There is not one science but is necessary to both. We daily see the false practices which result from the erroneous notion that surgery is a distinct thing from medicine, and vice versâ; and, on the other hand, the advantages and success of their happy alliance.

‘I maintain, then, that they are inseparable, and that if popular error has so much influence over our reasoning as to make us suppose they are not so, conviction will be postponed till it is too late to benefit by it.’

Henry Clarke’s was not an impulsive nature, but a clear head and good reasoning powers were, in his case, combined with steady perseverance, an unwavering determination to attain excellence, and high moral principle. It could not be otherwise than that a student-life so similar to his own, and so widely differing from that of many with whom Mr. Turner was necessarily brought into contact, should have awakened a deep response in his heart, and it was with a father’s eye and feeling of satisfaction that he watched his nephew’s progress in study.

But, notwithstanding all the deep interest in, and the devotion to his profession which Henry Clarke displayed, he also experienced the difficulties which have been previously alluded to as having been so keenly felt by Mr. Turner during the first year of his student-life. There were certain things from which the sensitiveness of nature possessed by each made them shrink, and the greatest of these impediments presented itself, in the case of young Clarke, in the recoil which he could not help feeling upon witnessing operations. Regarding it as a weakness which it was necessary that he should, and which he was therefore determined to overcome, he presented himself time after time amongst the other students, when operations were being conducted at the Infirmary, and was again and again, from faintness, compelled to leave.

Resolved to conquer, he would brace himself previously



with drugs calculated to increase his power of nerve, so as to enable him to pass the dreaded ordeal, but still unsuccessfully; and Mr. Turner came to the conclusion that it would be impossible for his nephew ever to practise in both medicine and surgery, as he had desired, and that he would therefore have to confine himself exclusively to the former, and become a physician. His struggles and hopes were, however, soon to be ended.

The spring of the year 1848 drew on, and Henry Clarke was among the most hopeful and aspiring of the young students, who were anticipating with him the competition for prizes, which was to take place in the third week in April.

‘One of my brothers had been ill,’ Miss Turner writes, ‘and I had gone with him and one of my sisters to Bowdon (which is eight miles from Manchester), as my dear father thought the change would be of use to him. Our cousin Henry came down to see us for a few hours, about ten days before the examination for medical prizes took place, and was full of sanguine expectation in reference to it. He had determined to try for the highest token of merit that could be gained, namely, the gold medal, which was awarded to the student who was found to combine the greatest proficiency in *all* the branches of medical science taught in the school, with high moral excellence, and my dear father believed that he would be successful.

‘We took a walk together that afternoon, and I remember how we paused under a sycamore-tree—which, being in a very sheltered position, had burst into unusually early leaf—and admired the rich colouring of the tender shoots. Henry was an excellent botanist, and nothing lovely in the vegetable world appeared ever to escape his observant eye. Upon this occasion he was reminded of the text: “I have seen the wicked in great power, and flourishing as a green bay tree,” and after quoting it, he commented on the power and beauty of the illustration.

‘It was the last time that we were ever permitted to see him in health. He told us how hard he was working, and evidently had felt scarcely able to spare from study, even the brief interval of time which he had spent with



us. But it was a happy afternoon which we had thus passed together.

‘The date fixed for the *written* examination was Wednesday, April the 19th, and we returned home early on the morning of that day. The arrangement then made was that all the students who were competing for prizes should be assembled at the school to receive the examination-papers, and that no one should be permitted to leave the room until he had answered the proposed questions, and this regulation was rigorously maintained by the students.

‘We did not, therefore, expect to see Henry for some time, when, at about three o’clock in the afternoon, he entered the library, looking very flushed, and told us how very ill he had been all the day, his head burning and distracted with pain; and that his fellow-students, seeing how much he was suffering, had begged him to leave the room, arranging that certain hours should be given to him at the school on the day following, for the completion of his paper, adding that they could all place the most perfect reliance “upon the honour of Henry Clarke;” an incident reflecting credit on all concerned, when it is remembered how formidable an intellectual rival our poor cousin was thought to be. On the Thursday morning he came down stairs, hoping he was a little better, but looking very ill, and was soon compelled to retire to his own room. The next day he was worse, and my dear father was evidently anxious about him. On the Saturday, all his unfavourable symptoms were increased; and as fever of an infectious kind was apprehended, in addition to the previously existing overwrought and suffering state of brain, we were again sent by my father to Bowdon.

‘A slight improvement took place on the Sunday, but it was only transient. About 9 o’clock in the evening, violent delirium set in, and continued until nearly 11 o’clock, when our poor cousin broke a bloodvessel in the brain, and expired. It was on the 23rd of April, and Easter Sunday. He had not yet attained his nineteenth year.

‘Henry was a valued teacher in St. Ann’s Sunday School, and on May 7th the Rev. H. W. M’Grath preached the anniversary sermons of the school, and in the morning



address alluded, in touching terms, to his brief but bright career, selecting these words as the subject of his discourse: "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand, for thou knowest not whether shall prosper either this or that, or whether they shall both be alike good." Henry was interred in the vault under All Saints' Church, Manchester, where grandpapa's remains are also resting.

'The public prize distribution in the autumn of this year, was very trying to my dear father. He had looked forward, with all a parent's hope and pride, to the distinction which he expected would have been conferred upon our poor cousin on that day, and I remember the quivering lip, and faltering voice, with which, in the address delivered by him upon this occasion, he alluded to the way in which health and life had been sometimes nobly sacrificed in the endeavour to attain excellence, whilst he yet urged upon all those who were present, and had selected the medical profession as their own, to devote themselves with ardour to the course of study which it involved.'

This sad bereavement exercised a powerful effect upon all the members of Mr. Turner's family. To himself and Mrs. Turner it was as the loss of a son, and to their children that of a brother, and it was long before the vacant place in their home circle could be forgotten.

This domestic sorrow was rapidly followed by another most unexpected and heavy stroke of bereavement.

Mr. Edmund Turner's eldest daughter had many years previously married a barrister, in London, and the former often stayed at the house of his son-in-law (Mr. Beasley), when engaged in his Parliamentary duties. On the evening of the 9th of December he returned from the House of Commons in apparently good health and most cheerful spirits, but upon his room being entered in the morning, he was found a corpse. He appeared to have died without a struggle, and was lying in the calm and peaceful posture of one asleep.

The *post mortem* examination revealed spasm of the heart as the cause of his sudden death.

Mr. Turner was deeply affected by the loss of his



brother, but the pressure of his now rapidly extending practice, gave him but little leisure for depressing contemplation.

Continually called in consultation in cases of danger and intricacy, not only to the towns surrounding Manchester, but into Yorkshire, Cheshire, Wales, Derbyshire, Staffordshire, and sometimes even farther still, railway travelling consumed much of his time; and in order to compass his work, and interfere as little as possible with his home consultations, he would often gain time by devoting the early hours of the day to travelling, leaving by train at six or seven o'clock in the morning, when called to a distant case, and this practice he continued even up to the year he died.

A few months after these trying events, Mr. Turner purchased a house at Whalley Range, about two and a half miles from Mosley Street, and occupying it as a summer residence for himself and his family (as he had previously done Ashfield), experienced the cheering effect which this new interest was so suited to produce.

Allusion has been previously made to Mrs. Turner's love of the country; and her exquisite taste in arranging the flower-beds in the garden, which were always planted according to her direction, was here called into ample exercise. Her delight in the cultivation of flowers was so great, that her daughters would often laughingly call them her 'green children,' and the indulgence of this innocent and happy taste was, doubtless, most beneficial in its results.

Mr. Turner's domestic circle was very soon, however, to undergo another change, though by an event of a very different character, namely, the marriage of his eldest daughter, in January 1850, to the Rev. W. H. Hamilton, at that time curate in charge of the parish of Marton, near Skipton-in-Craven, Yorkshire, but afterwards presented to the living by the Rev. Danson Richardson Roundell Currer Roundell, M.A., of Gledstone, in the parish of Marton, and lord of the manor, from whom Mr. Hamilton and every member of Mr. Turner's family, received the greatest and most unvarying kindness up to the close of



his long life. Mr. Roundell died on March 10, 1873, and would have entered his ninetieth year, had he survived a fortnight longer.

In 1851 the Queen visited Manchester, and was entertained by the Earl and Countess of Ellesmere at Worsley Hall. It will be remembered that this nobleman presided at the first public distribution of prizes in connection with the Royal School of Medicine in Manchester, in 1844. He was a man of very superior and cultivated mind, taking a deep interest in the promotion of science and literature, and had previously manifested in many ways, the kindly feeling and respect which he entertained for Mr. Turner; sentiments which were evinced upon this occasion by his being included among the guests who were invited to meet Her Majesty, on the evening of Thursday, October 9th, at Worsley Hall, several other men of well-known scientific and literary attainments being also present.

For many years Mr. Turner's mind had been much engaged upon the subject of sanitary reform, and during this year his thoughts upon this great question began to assume a more definite character. He had long felt that the high death-rate prevailing in Manchester was largely traceable to preventible causes, and was consequently a discredit to the town. Though infant mortality, among the poor, might to a great extent be considered as arising, in manufacturing districts, from the neglect of home, which resulted from the employment of women in factories, it was yet evident that many elements were at work in the general community, which were most destructive to the life and health of the working classes.

Doubtless intoxication had much to answer for; but was there nothing in the atmosphere of his home calculated to depress the physical constitution of the labouring man, and from which he sought to escape, by having recourse to the false excitement, so fatal in its results to both health and happiness? Was not very much of all the evil prevailing, to be *really* traced to the ill-ventilated, and badly-drained dwellings, in which the poor too often lived? Were they not frequently crowded together in a way which



rendered the air passing through their lungs poisonous, damp cellars also being often their habitations? Were not the higher classes responsible for the continuance of this state of things? And should not some organisation be established through which might flow the efforts of those who desired to assist in remedying these great evils?

Thus was Mr. Turner led, with the late lamented Rev. Canon Richson (who was early made a sharer in these thoughts) to originate and finally to establish the Manchester and Salford Sanitary Association, the following circular being issued in their united names, on September 15th, 1852:—

“Dear Sir,—The importance of diffusing a knowledge of the laws of health among the labouring and poorer classes, as tending to prevent some of the serious effects of malignant epidemics, no less than to promote their intellectual, moral, and social improvement, is so obvious, that we venture to invite you to attend a meeting of a few gentlemen in the Mayor’s Parlour, Town Hall, Manchester, on Monday evening, the 20th inst., at seven o’clock—when the Mayor has kindly consented to preside—to take into consideration the propriety of establishing an association of which the objects are explained on the following page.

‘Your faithful servants,

‘T. TURNER, F.R.C.S.

‘C. RICHSON, M.A.’

This invitation was cordially responded to, and led to the calling of a general meeting in October, which issued in the formation of a council of twelve gentlemen, and the appointment of a chairman, a treasurer, two honorary secretaries, and a committee, for the management of the association.

The objects proposed by the Society were mainly these: The detection of preventible causes of disease and mortality, and the friendly representation to the Corporation of such nuisances as, being discovered, it came within their province to remove; the improvement of



the dwellings of the poor, and the prevention, as far as possible, of such cottages being erected, as were deficient in the supply of the conveniences necessary for the comfort, and cleanliness of the inhabitants; the detection of adulterations in food, many of which were highly injurious; and, lastly, to spread among the entire community, more accurate information respecting the laws of health. It was decided that pamphlets and tracts should be published upon various sanitary questions, and that popular lectures should be delivered in some of the poorest parts of the town, for the especial benefit of the working classes. This latter agency was felt to be peculiarly needful, in order to dispel the widespread ignorance which prevailed among the great masses of the poor, in reference to some of the commonest laws of health, and which, unless removed, would render them indifferent to the advantages which might be offered to them, as well as allow them to remain unconscious of how far the remedy for certain evils, was placed within their own reach.

The society dealt also with the question of infectious diseases, and offered suggestions of a practical character, in order to check their spread.

Thus, through the united efforts of Mr. Turner, and the Rev. Canon Richson, were a number of earnest-minded men of literary and scientific attainments gathered together, some personally engaging in the work, and others aiding it with their pecuniary support. Among these early and valued supporters Mr. C. E. Cawley, M.P. for Salford, and the late Mr. Ernest Reuss were conspicuous, although many other names might be mentioned to whom the society owes much.

Many gentlemen came forward and expressed their willingness to deliver lectures; and notwithstanding all the pressure of his professional engagements, Mr. Turner devoted a great number of his evenings to this work.

The courses of lectures extended from the beginning of November until the end of March, two or three lectures being delivered every week, in various public rooms, in different neighbourhoods; and in a course of twenty-seven or thirty lectures thus given, six or seven were



always undertaken by Mr. Turner, and often a still larger number.

The association thus founded, has continued to flourish, and may now be regarded as having become one of the permanent institutions of Manchester; and (as was recently stated at the annual meeting) 'so satisfactory has been its operation, that most of the sanitary improvements which the association pointed out as most urgent, during the earlier years of its existence, have now been entered upon, under the guidance of officers of health, whose appointment the committee so long advocated.'

The Rev. Canon Richson was Chairman of the association until the year 1858, from which time it was held by Mr. Turner, up to his death. Before concluding the above sketch of the history of the Sanitary Association a grateful tribute must be paid to the memory of one who was its first President, and ever took a deep personal interest in its welfare—the late Bishop of Manchester, Dr. Lee. Almost immediately after his appointment to this see, he presided at the public distribution of medical prizes; and those who were present upon that occasion will not forget (though so long ago) the dignity and feeling with which he addressed a few words of encouragement and approval to each of the students who came up then to receive individually the prize (which his ability had merited) from the Bishop's hands.

Drawn together by the sympathy which they felt in every object of an educational or philanthropic kind, the friendship which existed between this highly-gifted man and Mr. Turner was a warm and uninterrupted one; and from no scientific project or scheme of benevolence in which the latter was interested, was his lordship's valued co-operation ever withheld.

The Sanitary Association secured his most cordial interest and approval, so that it was rarely indeed that he was absent from its annual meeting; and Dr. Lee's mantle has in this, as well as in other ways, fallen upon the present respected Bishop, who is now its President, and who entertains the same kindly interest in its welfare, which his predecessor felt.



In addition to the general society, a Ladies' sanitary association has now been formed, having for its object the employment of sanitary women to visit in the worst districts of the town, each person so engaged having the advice and assistance, in cases of difficulty, of some lady who undertakes to superintend her work. House-to-house visitation, in these districts, was contemplated at first by the general association, but its promoters were compelled to abandon this portion of their scheme. The infant organisation to which allusion has been made, has supplied this want, and is working successfully in this important department, where the exercise of so much kindness and tact is requisite, in order to bring about the desired good result.



## CHAPTER XIV.

DOMESTIC SORROWS—THE MEDICAL A HUMANE PROFESSION—ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CHATHAM STREET SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, AND ITS UNION WITH THE ROYAL SCHOOL—DEAF AND DUMB SCHOOL, AT OLD TRAFFORD—LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE AND OPENING OF THE INFANT SCHOOL—ADULT DEAF AND DUMB SOCIETY—MRS. TURNER'S DEATH.

DOMESTIC SORROW, in the form of illness, very heavily shaded Mr. Turner's life during the period which intervened between the years 1855 and 1858. One of his sons was attacked by a very dangerous illness, from which recovery appeared almost hopeless, and which lasted for nine months. His other son met with a severe accident, and was for many weeks threatened with the loss of sight; and the health of one of his daughters became very delicate. Through the goodness of God, however, these anxieties passed away, and Mr. Turner had the happiness of seeing the complete recovery of all those who have been mentioned; but in the early summer of 1857, a lady, who was a very intimate and valued friend of the family, came to stay with them; and becoming very dangerously ill, died, after about six weeks of suffering, in Mr. Turner's house.

Shortly before this sad event, which was rendered very distressing by the necessary assembling of the dying invalid's relatives, Sir Benjamin and Lady Brodie spent a few days in Manchester with Mr. and Mrs. Turner; and during their visit, a medical consultation took place between Sir Benjamin and Mr. Turner, respecting the health of his daughter, Mrs. Hamilton, who had, for some time, been far from strong, and whose increasing feebleness gave rise to fresh cares. Their united opinion was, that though exceedingly delicate, no disease existed; and during



the summer months she appeared better, but shortly after the winter had set in, a cold was taken, which quickly assumed the form of severe bronchitis; and after several weeks of confinement to her bed, it became evident that Mrs. Hamilton did not possess the strength needful to enable her to resist the inroads of the disease. Her sufferings were very great, but were borne with the most cheerful patience, and they were brought to a termination on Tuesday afternoon, January 26th, 1858, when she passed away into His presence 'whom, having not seen, she loved.'

Mrs. Hamilton left three children—a son and two daughters.

We will not dwell upon the severity of this loss to the members of her attached family circle. Such feelings are too sacred to be revealed, and live on still in the hearts of the bereaved, long after the active duties of life have been necessarily resumed, returning in silent hours when only God is near, or when some passing event serves to stir the sorrow ordinary observers have thought dead.

Called upon, as Mr. Turner was, to the energetic discharge of professional duty, involving to so large an extent the health and happiness of those with whom he was brought into contact, no lengthened season of retirement in periods of sorrow, appeared to be placed within his reach. His active engagements, being so closely connected with suffering, were, however, far more in harmony with the feelings called forth by such a bereavement, than most worldly avocations can be said to be.

But upon this subject, Mr. Turner has left the following beautiful record of his own sentiments:—

“It is a *humane* profession; for what sphere is so fitted for the display of all the gentler, and more amiable virtues, of generosity, patience, and humanity, as that in which the medical practitioner moves? His opportunities of doing good to his fellow-creatures are almost innumerable, and are well calculated to raise the envy of the feeling mind. But still the profession is not made up entirely of sweets; its members have their anxieties, their disappointments, and their mortifications. Their anxieties are of no ordinary character. The medical man in exten-



sive practice, has to witness scenes of the deepest distress, both of a mental and bodily character, and also in worldly circumstances; and how indeed must that man be in moral feeling, who would undertake the charge of administering relief, not feeling competent thereto, by previous study and experience. It is said, indeed, by some, that the frequency of the scenes of human misery of which he is a spectator, renders the medical man callous and indifferent to the calamities which befall humanity. This charge is not just. It is true that habit inures him to the sight of pain, but it does not destroy his sympathy; and I appeal to those who have lost relatives or friends whether their medical attendant has not been always the first to offer condolence? But the medical man has his anxieties, and among the chief of these, is his solicitude for the welfare of his patients. This is attributed sometimes to selfish motives, or to the desire to secure unimpaired fame; but, apart from professional considerations, can it be a matter in which he feels no interest, when the husband, the wife, the parent, or the child lies on the bed of sickness? Is it a matter of indifference to him to see the patient restored to health, to witness the flush of joy mantle the cheeks of the fond, and anxious relatives, and to receive the grateful thanks of those who look up to him as the restorer of their threatened happiness? †

‘But medical men have their disappointments, and their mortifications, as well as their anxieties and rewards.

‘It often happens that by undue interference their most sanguine expectations are destroyed; and circumstances will occasionally take place calculated to wound their personal feelings; but the best safeguard against this is to lay in a store of knowledge, which will enable them to practise with confidence; and this also forms the very best shield against the attacks which malevolence may direct.’

We have noticed the establishment in Manchester of an additional School of Medicine to the one opened by Mr. Turner, and the rise of another shortly afterwards in Marsden Street, which continued to flourish for many years, but which in the course of time, was also given



up. In the year 1850, Mr. Southam (since elected a member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons), Dr. T. H. Watts, and the late Mr. Dumville established a Medical School in Chatham Street, and were joined by several of the gentlemen formerly connected as lecturers with Marsden Street, and this school continued its course of prosperity until the year 1858, when an honourable agreement was entered into with Mr. Turner, and the other lecturers, which ended in its amalgamation with the Royal School of Medicine. For a season the united schools met in Chatham Street, until certain arrangements were made for their convenient reception in Pine Street, when work was resumed in the old premises.

From the commencement until the close of Mr. Turner's career, in connexion with the School of Medicine which he had established, he was singularly happy in his possession of the respect and attachment of the students. It could scarcely be otherwise. His cheerful cordiality of manner and genuine kindness, his fatherly interest in the promotion of their welfare, and readiness to assist them in any way that he could; his generosity of temperament, and careful observation of merit, in order to speak the word of encouragement and approval, at the right moment, to the deserving—all these qualities endeared him to the hearts of his pupils, and made them feel that in him they had a true friend; but there were times when the presence of troublesome students necessitated the maintenance of more authoritative discipline, and a stricter enforcement of rules, and it was not to be wondered at, that the amalgamation of the schools gave rise to an occasion of this kind, and that a little time was required for everything to be properly adjusted, and move forward in perfect harmony. Shortly after the union, therefore (and no doubt arising from this cause), some scurrilous lines directed against Mr. Turner, were printed and circulated freely among the pupils. The indignation of the right-feeling students was very great, and the attack was speedily repelled by the following spirited verses, which were also printed, and widely distributed by them among their fellow-classmen:—



*An Answer to a Parody Written by a Student of the  
Manchester Royal School of Medicine and Surgery.*

By chance the other day I read  
A Parody, poor, mean, and low ;  
Who wrote it has not yet been said,  
Nor why ; perhaps 'twas but to show  
How base is life !

Each line the same sore theme renewed,  
Of scandal 'gainst an honoured name ;  
Each word spoke harsh ingratitude,  
And breathed a tale of endless shame—  
But such is life.

Nor was there in those verses shown  
One spark of humour or address ;  
I smiled, but with contempt alone,  
And could not the sad thought suppress—  
How mean is life !

Is youth so reckless, so perverse,  
That kindness, constant zeal, and skill,  
Should meet with no reward, or worse,  
Be but the reason of ill-will ?  
Can such be life ?

Yet, students, from our benches sprang  
A printed sheet, which must have pained  
One who to us has warmly clung,  
And for us every sinew strained,  
Throughout his life. ♡

And shall we all in Chatham Street  
Our gratitude so soon forget,  
Or shall we prove, as I entreat,  
That scorn for shameful slander yet  
Remains in life ?

Let us the better course pursue :  
Condemn the hand that fain would move  
Resentment, where affection's due ;  
And to the world at large we'll prove,  
What should be life.

In August 1859, Mr. Turner laid the foundation-stone of the Infant Deaf and Dumb School, at Old Trafford. From the very commencement of his residence in Manchester, he had taken a deep interest in this class of sufferers. The Deaf and Dumb Institution was established in Manchester in the year 1825, the first premises occupied by the charity being in Stanley Street, Salford. Mr. Turner became its honorary medical attendant at this



date, and continued his services up to the close of his long life. The position of the school was found, however, to be very unhealthy and inconvenient, and many munificent donations were received for the erection of a suitable asylum. The site chosen was at a distance of about three miles from the centre of the town, and the foundation-stone of the present handsome structure was laid on March 23rd, 1836. Twenty thousand pounds having been meanwhile left by Mr. Henshaw, of Oldham, for the maintenance of an Asylum for the Blind, when a convenient building could be provided, the idea was entertained of their being united under the same roof, and this project was carried into execution, one wing of the present structure being devoted to the blind, and the other to the deaf and dumb.

During the attendance bestowed by Mr. Turner, year after year, upon the inmates of the latter institution, one great defect and barrier to the progress of the school was observed by him, notwithstanding the success which had attended its teaching; and hindrance he perceived to exist in the previously neglected moral training of the children who were admitted to its benefits. Regarded as incapable of instruction by their parents, they were either treated with a harshness which was most injurious, or an amount of indulgence which rendered the necessary school discipline most irksome and intolerable to them; and to bring their violent and altogether ungoverned passions under proper control, was at first (and often for some time after their admission into the Asylum) almost the only object which their teachers could propose, or accomplish.

As early as the year 1844, Mr. Turner had suggested the establishment of an infant school, as the only true remedy for this great evil, and had brought his idea before the committee, in consequence of which a meeting was convened in the Town Hall, to consider the suggestion thus offered. It was not, however, until the year 1859 that the requisite funds were raised, partly by subscription, and partly by the proceeds of an immense bazaar, which realised the enormous sum of £6,903.

On August 8th the foundation-stone was laid by Mr.



Turner, in the presence of a large assemblage of persons. The silver trowel, which was given to him at this time, bears the following inscription:—

‘Presented to Thos. Turner, Esq., F.R.C.S., for thirty-six years Honorary Surgeon to the Manchester School for the Deaf and Dumb, on the occasion of his laying the foundation-stone of the Infant School, of which he was the originator.—August 8th, 1859.’

The building was completed, and the Infant School opened on Wednesday, September 26th, 1860, being the first institution of the kind ever established in the United Kingdom, or in the world.

About a hundred years previous to this date, public attention had been, for the first time, directed to the necessity of providing education for the deaf and dumb by the Abbé L’Epée, but ‘no movement had ever before been attempted towards the institution of anything like an *Infant Deaf and Dumb School*.’

In presiding upon this occasion the Rev. Canon Clifton said: ‘We come to celebrate the opening of a new branch of this institution—a branch suggested by my kind friend, Mr. Turner—the establishment of which has been the anxious desire of his heart for many years past; and to him I may offer my sincere congratulations, and I think those of the whole of this meeting, that he has been spared by Providence to see this day, and to witness the completion of that project which is due to him, and in which he has exerted himself so actively, and so successfully. I should mention that an infant branch of an institution like this, is an entirely new idea. . . . . It will be for you now to pass the rules which will be read to you, and to hear who are the candidates for admission at the present time, and to elect those candidates into the building. Then it will be for our friend Mr. Turner, to declare that the building is formally opened, that its rules have been fixed, and that the children are ready to claim the shelter of its protection. Mr. Turner is the fittest and most competent person to perform this task, and to address you upon a subject upon which *he*, above all men, is most entitled to be heard.’



It is not desirable, perhaps, to insert the whole of Mr. Turner's speech upon this occasion, but a portion of it will be given, on account of the interesting remarks which it contains upon the subject of the early training of the deaf and dumb:—

'You are perhaps aware, my dear friends, that the initiative of this meeting, and of the objects for which we are met, was taken sixteen years ago, when I presumed, at a meeting at the Town Hall, convened for the purpose, to state that our system of education with respect to the deaf and dumb was defective—*morally, especially so*—from the late period of life at which the children were admitted into deaf and dumb institutions, and that it would not be complete until we had provided the means of receiving them in infancy, and thereby subjecting them to early moral discipline.

'The meeting in question was under the presidency of the late lamented Rev. Canon Parkinson. The suggestion was approved; it was placed on the minutes as a desideratum to be accomplished; but time went on. It was brought before us annually as a desideratum, but nothing was done in the matter beyond hoping that the time of realisation would arrive, until about four years ago, when our excellent and indefatigable friend to all institutions of a charitable nature—I mean Mr. Ernest Reuss, with some other individuals—bestirred themselves on behalf of this movement, and raised a large sum in aid of it.'

After alluding to others who had rendered assistance in various ways in gathering the required sum, Mr. Turner proceeded:—

'The noble purpose of this building (and this is the culminating point of all our exertions) has been to provide a structure for the reception of these darling little children, who are subject to the privations with which it has pleased God to afflict them, but from which calamities we hope to raise them as high as may be in the power of human intelligence. . . . .  
In reference to the moral training of these children, I believe that every man who is acquainted with education at all, will tell you this, that it "begins with the cradle and



ends only with the grave." Of this fact I am thoroughly convinced. . . . . In the cradle, the child is undergoing a sort of moral discipline, its affections being awakened. They may be selfish, as concentrated upon the mother, but of what mighty consequence is that concentration in after-life! When you come, then, to look at this question, it is in early life that we must commence our moral training. These poor children have never had the advantage of that, but they will *now*. Moral training must begin when the mind is supple, susceptible, and impressible; when it is in our power to eradicate early bad habits, and to implant in their stead, virtues. The education of the mind, and the education of the body, must go hand-in-hand. The character of the body is this: it is first tender, flexible, and impressible; by the passing on of time, with care, &c., the framework of our bodies becomes solid, giving health and strength to the physical part of our nature. Is it not the same with the mind: first of all ductile, capable of receiving any impression that may be made upon it? Be careful, then, to let those impressions be virtuous, and not vicious, and a great point will be gained. This is the aim we have in view in submitting these children to proper influences, thereby bringing them as much as possible into communion with others, in despite of the privations under which they labour. But what are the privations of these children? First of all, physically, they are formed as you and I are; their instincts are most powerful, the same as ours; but for want of proper control in early life they oftentimes run riot, instead of developing into genial affections. This development will be accomplished, I trust, by the blessing of God, upon the efforts of our friends, in connection with this school. Morally, these children have the feelings and principles of our nature, as you and I have, but they require discipline. Is not discipline necessary with our children? There is no exception in favour of our children, in comparison with the poor deaf and dumb child, in this respect. They have intellect, eye, and in a very high degree too. Many of the individuals who have been educated in the adjoining institution by Mr. Patterson, are now filling



highly responsible situations. There is one privation: they cannot articulate. Why? Because they cannot hear articulate sounds. Therefore all their power of conveying thought is dependent upon the exercise of the other senses; and sight and touch are in an especial degree operative. Though they cannot speak, yet the deaf mutes have a language—an inarticulate language of signs, gesture, and expression. I have recently met with some lines exquisitely descriptive of their mode of expression:—

If speech be only in accented sounds  
 Framed by the tongue and lips, then are they dumb;  
 But if by quick and apprehensive look,  
 By motion, sign, and glance, to give each meaning  
 Express, as clothed in language, be termed speech,  
 They have that wondrous faculty; for their eyes,  
 Like the bright stars of heaven, can hold discourse  
 And tell of mind, though they be mute and soundless.

Thus may these children be made to speak the language of the heart, of the feelings, of the affections, in a manner intelligible to all of us; and in this way, therefore, they will become a part of the domestic and general community. . . . . This is a work of humanity; it is a work of philanthropy; and on the score of humanity, and philanthropy, no man or woman ever made an appeal to Manchester in vain. But, moreover, it is a work of higher obligation still—it is the work of God; and I have no doubt whatever that the first attempt of our excellent teacher, Mr. Stainer, with respect to these children, will be to teach them the praises of Almighty God; and since He has promised to love and cherish little children, we are perfectly certain that He will do so, as His promises can never fail.

Mr. Turner's practical sympathy was also very largely drawn out towards a society established for the benefit of the adult deaf and dumb, the origin and purport of which we will give in his own words:—

‘The Adult Deaf and Dumb Society is one in which I have long interested myself, and which I hope to continue to serve, as long as God spares my life, for it is a society calculated to do a great amount of good. It was established chiefly for the religious benefit of the adult deaf



and dumb of our city, and the adjoining towns; and is not a part only of our parent institution, but may rather be expressed as something built upon it. After the inmates are removed from the Asylum at Old Trafford, with a view to their obtaining the means of living, they are spread over the neighbouring towns. Some live at Stockport, Ashton, Staleybridge, Bolton, and a variety of other places, as well as in Manchester. . . . . Every Sunday they enjoy at the room engaged for them in John Dalton Street the ministrations of Mr. Stainer. . . . . The Adult Deaf and Dumb Society is not one of recent date; it was established in 1851, and in the first instance, was regulated and managed by the late Rev. Thomas Buckley, the chaplain of the Deaf and Dumb Institution, and of the Blind Asylum. Mr. Patterson<sup>1</sup> has been also of signal service in helping it forward in every way that he could. We now possess a teacher in our respected friend Mr. Stainer,<sup>2</sup> who will long be spared, I hope, in his present position.'

The gentleman here alluded to has, however, been removed from his post in Manchester for some years, and is at the present time, we believe, the officiating minister at a church for the deaf and dumb erected in London. All the schools at Old Trafford (both Infant and Upper) are now placed under the superintendence of Mr. Patterson; and the Rev. George Downing has the regulation and care of the Adult Deaf and Dumb Society, in connection with which (in addition to the religious services) a library has been established. Courses of lectures also have been delivered during the winter months, for a great number of years past, and many of the deaf mutes are now so intelligent, and so well-informed, that they have given detached lectures upon various interesting subjects to their fellow-members.

Mr. Turner delivered a course of lectures annually to

<sup>1</sup> The valued master of the Upper Deaf and Dumb School at Old Trafford, whose services have now been rendered to the institution for a period of thirty-three years.

<sup>2</sup> The first master of the Infant Deaf and Dumb School, as well as the religious teacher of the adult deaf and dumb, 400 of whom are now stated to be residing in Manchester and its neighbourhood.



them, and received many marks of their appreciation of his teaching, and gratitude for it. Upon these occasions, Mr. Stainer, in the first instance, and Mr. Downing latterly, interpreted what was spoken to the audience in the sign language, by gesture, and expression of face, conveying with wonderful skill the instruction which was being delivered, as much or more than by the finger language ordinarily employed.

The Rev. Canon Bardsley, the Rev. T. A. Stowell, and other clergymen and gentlemen, have also shown great interest in the society, and delivered lectures from time to time, which have been similarly interpreted.<sup>1</sup>

The present chapter opened with a narration of sorrow, and the severest bereavement of Mr. Turner's life was now approaching, the account of which (as given by himself) will close its pages. Allusion has been already made to the delicacy of Mrs. Turner's health, and several severe attacks of rheumatic fever led finally to the heart complaint in which such attacks are found so frequently to result.

Mr. Turner's eldest son held a commission in the army; and as it became known that he would have to sail for India in the autumn of 1860, the event was looked forward to with great apprehension, since it was feared that the pain of parting with him would greatly try Mrs. Turner in her enfeebled state. It was borne, however, better than had been feared, and during the winter months she continued much in the same

<sup>1</sup> The operations of this excellent society have for some time back been much crippled for want of a suitable building; and a special effort is being made at the present time to supply this need. The objects of the society are now stated in their printed documents to be the following:—

'1. To continue the religious and secular instruction of the deaf and dumb of Manchester and the neighbouring districts after they have quitted school.

'2. To assist in obtaining employment for the deaf and dumb, and to provide an interpreter in cases of difficulty or misunderstanding between them and their employers.

'3. To visit the sick, unemployed, and others at their own homes, and to grant pecuniary relief in cases found to be really deserving.

'The Chaplain and Missionary to be ready at all times to visit urgent cases of sickness, and in every respect to act as the pastors and advisers of the adult deaf and dumb.'



state of health as previously. But the end was not far removed.

‘The year 1861,’ Mr. Turner writes, ‘was a sorrowful one, in the increasing illness and death of my dearest Anna. . .

‘My dearest wife left Mosley Street in May, believing she should be quieter in the country,<sup>1</sup> for it was obvious that her heart affection was giving her much distress. She passed a suffering time, but was always so cheerful and uncomplaining, that few, except those about her, could form a just estimate of her real amount of pain.

‘In the early part of June, her illness was aggravated by a severe attack of bronchitis, which left her in an extreme state of debility, from which she could not rally, and she passed to her rest in Christ on Sunday morning, the 16th of June. The week from this time to Sunday, the 23rd, was a sorrowful one to my dear girls, Edmund, and myself. Poor Tom was far away in India; therefore his sorrow was postponed; not, however, to be blunted by the passing on of time since the sad event of his dear mother’s death, for we have evidence in his letters to show how deeply he felt her loss.

‘On Saturday, June 22nd, the remains of my dearest Anna were conveyed to Marton, and there interred alongside of our dearest daughter, Anna, wife of the Rev. W. H. Hamilton; a peaceful spot, which every one will envy who has no taste for pageantry, and for being visited by the busy throng of the more curious.’

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Turner died at Ashfield, Whalley Range, Mr. Turner’s country residence.



## CHAPTER XV.

CORRESPONDENCE—MRS. PLUMMER'S DEATH—MR. TURNER PLACED UPON THE COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS—CONTINUED ENERGY—FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE—TESTIMONIAL FROM THE GOVERNESSES' INSTITUTION—UNION OF THE ROYAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE IN MANCHESTER WITH THE OWENS COLLEGE—INAUGURAL ADDRESS UPON THIS OCCASION.

A FEW of Mr. Turner's letters have been introduced into the preceding pages, but, with the exception of those addressed to his wife, they have been almost entirely of a professional character; and this memoir would be incomplete, if specimens of those familiar epistolary communications in which Mr. Turner so excelled, were omitted. No occasion of condolence, or congratulation, was ever permitted by him to pass unnoticed, whether such might arise in the circle of his own immediate relatives, or among friends or patients. These communications were indeed often brief, but when his urgent professional engagements are remembered, it is wonderful that so much was accomplished in this way by even his ready pen.

In 1863 Mr. Turner attended a meeting of the Medical Association at Clifton, and the following letter was written by him to his daughters at this time:—

'The Queen's, Clifton.

'My dearest girls,—Owing to the tiresome delays at Stafford and Birmingham I did not get here till past eight o'clock; however, I attended the general meeting in the evening, and met with a great number of Bristol, London, and other friends, and amongst them Dr. Fox, to whose brother (when I was a student here) I was clinical clerk. Socially, the meeting promises to be a pleasing one,



and, I think, professionally too; there are probably three hundred medical men here, from all parts of the country.

‘I have just returned from breakfasting with the President, Dr. Symonds, and taking a stroll on Clifton Downs and the banks of the Avon, once my favourite walks by moonlight and “early in dewy morn,” when I had more romance in me than I have now, although I have still no small share of that element; but it is tempered, I hope, with truthfulness, which lessens the power of imagery in some degree. . . . .

‘Give my kindest love to all, and believe me, in haste, my darling girls,

‘Ever your affectionate father,

‘T. TURNER.’

The following letter is one of a series addressed by Mr. Turner to the Rev. David Bell, M.D., vicar of Goole, Yorkshire, a very intimate friend, and one with whom he enjoyed much pleasant intercourse in conversing upon professional as well as social topics. Dr. Bell had been a physician for eighteen years before entering the ministry; and, retaining all his deep interest in medical subjects, continually attended the meetings of the Medical Association, unless prevented from doing so by his clerical avocations. The letter now given was penned almost immediately after the previous one, addressed by Mr. Turner to his daughters:—

‘Nairn, Scotland: September 26, 1863.

‘My dear Dr. Bell,—Your letter (but letter only) has been forwarded to me at this place, where I have been recreating for a few days, before returning home to my winter labours; for what with medical and public lectures at our Royal Institution, Sanitary Association, &c., &c., added to my other public and private duties, I find myself fully occupied from the 1st of October to the end of April.

‘It gave me great pleasure to meet you and our friends at Bristol, under the auspices of so good a man as Dr. Symonds. I had a letter from him a few weeks ago, when



he was on a tour in Cornwall, which is my native county, and I think Dr. S. is from the same locality.

‘Although I have been in Edinburgh and Glasgow and other parts of Scotland, yet I have never had so fair an opportunity as now of seeing its mountain scenery; and when we look upon the gigantic efforts of man, exhibited in abbeys and cathedrals, now devastated to a considerable extent by the destructive hand of Time, the mind is filled with wonder. The associations, too, with Scottish history are most interesting, and will take a strong hold on my memory.

‘I do hope to go to Cambridge next year, when I trust we may again meet, for I reciprocate towards you the feelings of friendship you have been pleased to express towards me.

‘On my return, which will be in the early part of the week, I shall read the account to which you refer. Your duties are even more responsible than my own, but each in his way can contribute largely to public good, and public happiness. A combination of tastes and talents like yours must be of mighty benefit in the discharge of your clerical responsibilities, inasmuch as, knowing the dangers which threaten, you can earnestly and confidently attune the ear of the sufferer to listen with attention to the important truths of the Gospel of Christ, by which alone he can secure peace here and hereafter. Should you visit Manchester at any time, you will always find a hearty welcome from, dear Dr. Bell,

‘Yours ever sincerely,

‘THOS. TURNER.’

The following letter was written (1863) by Mr. Turner to his second daughter at the time of her engagement:—

‘My darling child,—Your letter of this morning has rather taken us by surprise. I tell you, as I have always told you all, and which was in accordance with dearest mamma’s feelings, that all I wish, and all she wished, was the happiness of our children, and you are of an age and of good sense and principle enough to judge for yourself.



I shall be prepared to see Mr. H., but can only tell him what I did before. I hope this will reach you before you leave Kent's Bank. Kind love to all. In haste. †

‘Ever yours affectionately,

‘Friday morning.’

‘T. T.

Mr. Turner's younger son had been educated at the University of Cambridge, where he took out his B.A. degree in 1860, after which he studied for the medical profession, but this was eventually abandoned by him for the clerical; and on April 16, 1864, the following letter was addressed by Mr. Turner to this son, upon the occasion of his passing the Cambridge Theological Examination:—

“Mosley Street: April 16, 1864.

“My dearest Edmund,—I am extremely well pleased and gratified with what you have accomplished at college, and I think it augurs well for your future career in life; for without zeal and industry in the course in life which we select it is impossible to succeed in any undertaking. Your duties will henceforth be most responsible, and may God in His mercy help you in the useful, conscientious, and faithful discharge of them. With love to your wife,

‘Believe me,

‘Your affectionate father,

‘THOS. TURNER.’

Mr. Turner's well-known scientific attainments laid him open to very frequent solicitation from the clergy and others to deliver lectures in aid of mutual improvement societies, and various objects in the promotion of which they were interested; and, always willing to assist others so far as it lay in his power to do so, these appeals were very generally responded to. But occasionally Mr. Turner found it needful to limit the number of such engagements, and to determine that he would not add to the list of promises to lecture made by him during the remainder of that winter season.

The following anecdote shows how his kindly heart



would often lead him, under certain circumstances, to relax the determination so formed, even at personal inconvenience.

The son of a valued medical friend had been appointed to the district of St. Matthew's, Ardwick, and called upon Mr. Turner to enquire whether he would give one of a course of lectures to be delivered in the schoolroom of the district. Mr. Turner hastily glanced at the card presented to him, and did not recognise his friend's son as he entered the room. The purport of the visit was soon announced, and the reply given by Mr. Turner that he had resolved not to undertake any additional lecturing engagements during that season. The visitor alluded, however, to 'his father.' 'Who is your father?' Mr. Turner enquired. 'Mr. Lallemand, of Macclesfield,' was the reply. 'What! my old friend! To be sure I will lecture for you with the greatest pleasure!' Mr. Turner immediately rejoined. At whatever inconvenience, such an application *must* be entertained by him. 'I was much pleased and gratified,' Mr. Lallemand afterwards wrote, in allusion to this interview with his son, 'by this circumstance, evincing as it did my late friend's kindness and unselfishness, and his ready desire to oblige, however fatigued in powers.'

Mr. Turner was in the habit of taking a few weeks' rest in the country in the autumn of each year, before commencing his arduous winter labours; and as his married daughter (Mrs. Halstead) was now residing at Grange, on Morecambe Bay, she had the pleasure of receiving her father as her guest for this accustomed relaxation, in the September after her marriage. Upon Mr. Turner's return home, he wrote as follows:—

' Mosley Street : October 1, 1864.

' My darling Emma,—Thanks for the returned letter. Kitty, as you know, is gone to B——, where she arrived safely, and received a hearty welcome, as announced in a letter which has just been brought in. I have almost been pulled to pieces since my return home, and am hardly now in a state of "integritv:" but hope soon to



be all right again, though very busy, as my lectures begin on Monday.

‘My relaxation, “such as it was,” you and Herbert will say, has done me good, but I fear the work before me will soon rub off the polish. We had a nice journey home, with Mr. Brogden and Rev. E. Booth, two very intelligent travellers. Tell Herbert that I think Mr. Brogden a first-class scientific man; and when I next visit Grange I hope to see more of him; and I flatter myself that I was not very uncongenial to his taste, as we conversed on some high social topics.

‘I hope dear Mr. Halstead returned home safe and sound, without any taint of Parisian manners, and no twinges from Parisian dietary. Remember me kindly to him. Tell dear Herbert, how much I liked your quiet hospitable mode of living at Eggerslack—so much so, that I shall come again when *invited*. With kindest love, believe me, darling Emma,

‘Ever yours affectionately,

‘THO. TURNER.’

Mr. Turner’s son passed the Bishop of Winchester’s examination for ordination in December 1864; and this event called forth the following letter:—

‘December 26, 1864.

‘Dearest Edmund,—Your letter reached me this morning, and I do sincerely congratulate you on your success, and that you and dear Harriette are emancipated from the anxiety you have both had for several weeks; but now, my dear boy, your real anxieties in the “battle of life” will begin. You have entered on a very sacred mission, for which, by prayer and help from above, you will, I trust, find yourself equal. Give my kindest love to dear Harriette, and believe me, dearest Edmund,

‘Affectionately yours,

‘THOS. TURNER.’

On December 1, 1864, Mr. Turner wrote to his son-in-law:—



‘Mosley Street : December 1, 1864.

‘My dearest Herbert,—I do sincerely congratulate you, and my darling Emma on the birth of a boy. Not but that I think *girls* are in a general way *best*; but I suppose *in your case*, with *large landed property*, it is important to have a boy to inherit it!!! Give my most affectionate love to my darling girl, and tell her to attend to Mr. B. in everything. With much love to Mrs. Clarke and Katie, in haste,

‘Believe me,

‘Affectionately yours,

‘T. T.’

The following congratulations were addressed by Mr. Turner to his daughter upon the same event:—

‘Mosley Street : December 10, 1864.

‘My darling Emma,—Accept my hearty congratulations on your safety, for which we cannot be too thankful to the wise Disposer of all human events. Although, perhaps, the last to write to you, I have felt (it may be) the most, save and except your darling sister Kitty, who has, I assure you, been all anxiety about you. I have sent fifty messages to you to keep quiet, and not to excite yourself, nor to be excited by others, and therefore have told K. to write you short letters, and not give you much to think about, as sufficient for the day is the thought of the day at home, without any extraneous additions. I hope, my darling child, that your boy will be a blessing to you and Herbert; and as he is *said to be a Turner*, and like grandpapa, he is sure to be a comfort!!!

‘I hope dear Aunt and Katie are well. I am sure Aunt would be a great comfort to you, for her efficiency and gentle and kind ways are conducive to the happiness and cheerfulness of the sick chamber. I can see all of you are in ecstasy about the boy, but I shall (when you are quite well) pass my own judgment upon him, as I profess to be a judge. With much love to Herbert, Aunt, and Katie, I am, my darling Emma,

‘Yours ever affectionately,

‘THOS. TURNER.’



Upon the anniversary of his daughter's wedding-day Mr. Turner wrote :—

‘Mosley Street : January 6, 1865.

‘My darling Emma,—Accept for yourself and dear Herbert my most sincere and affectionate congratulations on your having passed so happily through the first year of your married life, with the prospect, too, of mutual continued love and affection. In the midst of our duties at this season of the year we have not forgotten you and yours, so that I have requested dearest Kate to send you a reminder of the new year in a little gift to your darling child.

‘Tell dearest Aunt I shall remember her when we welcome her to Mosley Street. With much love and the best wishes of the season, and God's blessing upon you all, believe me, my darling Emma,

‘Ever yours affectionately,

‘THOS. TURNER.’

In the summer of this year Mr. Turner wrote to his friend at Goole :—

‘June 1, 1865.

‘My dear Dr. Bell,—Our annual meeting of the Lancashire and Cheshire branch of the Medical Association will be held, under my presidency, on the 21st instant; and it will afford me great pleasure if you can come and spend a few days with me at that time.

‘It seems hardly worth while to take you from your more important duties; but knowing that your *goût* for medical matters has not evaporated, I have been induced to invite you, and shall have great pleasure in receiving you as my guest.

‘Believe me, dear Dr. B.,

‘Ever sincerely yours,

‘THOS. TURNER.’

Early in 1865 Mr. Turner lost his only remaining sister. She had entered her eighty-first year, and up to the very day of her death was in the enjoyment of wonderful health



for her advanced age. Every faculty was perfect, and none of the cares or sorrows through which she had been called to pass during her long life, had succeeded in embittering her happy temper, or effectually disturbing her placid temperament.

Mrs. Plummer was the eldest member of her father's family, and, as we have previously stated, Mr. Turner was the youngest; and the disparity of age existing between them had, in former years, made 'Sister Mary' his adviser in boyish troubles, and the depository of his youthful cares. All the intervening members of the family had long passed away—so long, indeed, that for seventeen years these had been the only surviving ones; but though separated by distance, they had continued united in heart, and there had been no intermission in the affectionate correspondence maintained between them.

Without any previous warning, Mrs. Plummer was seized with apoplexy on the morning of February 1st, and after twelve or fourteen hours of unconsciousness, breathed her last, surrounded by all the loving members of her own circle who were sufficiently near to be summoned in time. Mr. Turner was, of course, too far removed. His last visit to his native town was paid upon the occasion of this beloved sister's funeral.

Later on, in this year, the high honour was conferred upon Mr. Turner of election to a seat in the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons; and a few words in explanation of this distinction may not be unacceptable to the unprofessional reader. The Council is the governing body of the College, and everything connected with medical education is under its control. It consists of twenty-four members, three of whom, when no vacancy, either by resignation or death, has occurred during the year, go out in rotation annually in July, but are eligible for re-election by the Fellows of the College. If in any year one of the three retiring members be President of the College, he does not go out of office until the succeeding year.

The business transacted by various boards, and by the several committees, is submitted to the Council for its approval and confirmation, as are also all the pro-



ceedings of the Court of Examiners. The meetings of the Council are held every month of the year, excepting September; but are called at other times, if the business of the College requires it. No medical man is eligible for election who dispenses his own medicines, and no one may offer himself as a candidate, who has not been a member of the College for twenty years, and a Fellow for fourteen years.

The members of the Council are elected by the votes of the entire body of Fellows, scattered throughout England, and these are required to attend personally to record their votes. The inconvenience of this personal attendance to medical men engaged in active practice, as well as the necessary expense involved, is manifest; and, with the exception of Mr. Thomas Paget, of Leicester, no instance had been known of a medical man in the provinces having been elected to the Council, previous to Mr. Turner, who was returned in July 1865, nine London practitioners being unsuccessful as his antagonists in the field. Enough, however, has been said to show the nature of the distinction then conferred, and the dignity of the medical position thus attained by Mr. Turner. The following letter was addressed by him to his daughter, Mrs. Halstead, at this time:—

‘The Euston Hotel, London: July 14, 1865.

‘Dearest Emma,—Having a few minutes to spare before going again to my work, I shall write you a few lines instead of to dearest Kitty, hoping the dear child is restored to health and that you are to peace of mind. You must expect, my dear child, now that you have a baby (and such an one *too!!*) to be visited with more anxiety than formerly, for bitters and sweets alternate with each other. And so it should be, otherwise the pleasures of the latter, and the useful lessons of the former, would be lost upon us.

This (my second visit to London on College matters) is an *inaugurative* affair. There was a meeting of all the Council at the College Hall yesterday, when Paget<sup>1</sup> and

<sup>1</sup> Sir James Paget.



Turner, the two newly-elected councilmen, had to make their formal appearance before the assembled councillors (a list of whom I enclose). We were sworn in "as good and faithful colleagues of the Council," and sworn to do all that is right and honest to the entire medical profession; no small charge, when I tell you there are about 17,000 members, and 1,200 or 1,300 fellows (out of whom the Council is elected), and upon whom devolve the management of examinations, lectures, lecturers, and schools, and the moral conduct of members—a large family for us to look after!!! Our meeting yesterday was a very busy and a very agreeable one. I knew all present but four, who were not slow, after the business was over, to shake hands, and to congratulate me upon my new honour; indeed, I have the vanity to believe that I am not unacceptable to the Council, for many told me they had voted for me and given me their interest. After the meeting the President of the College took me to his house, and gave me an excellent dinner, and an introduction to his family.

'To-day we have some more inaugurative work, after which the members of the Council dine together at the Albion, to which the new members are invited as guests; so that I have not done yet with speech-making on my election to the Council.

'I have given you in this letter more about the "College of Surgeons of England" than you have ever heard before or you will ever hear from me again.

'How I should like to spend a day or two at Eggerslack, after all this excitement, anxiety, and bustle! But it will not be possible at present. Occupied as I have been and am, I have not called on anyone, nor have I even disturbed Edmund, knowing his duties are heavy as well as mine.

'Give my kindest love to darling Kate, and tell her I shall be home by the 6.15 train in the morning (Saturday). Love also to dear Herbert, and kind regards to Mr. Halsetad.

'Believe me, darling Emma,

'Ever affectionately yours,

'THO. TURNER.'



And to his younger son Mr. Turner wrote, a few days later:—

‘ Mosley Street, July 17, 1865.

‘ Dearest Edmund,—You may have been aware from the “Times” or from Kitty, that I was in London on Thursday, at the annual meeting of the College, when I was introduced to my colleagues, most of whom, by the by, I knew before, and had my work in the Council set me to do. The meeting was a most agreeable one. I had no time to do anything beyond the business of the College, and therefore could not spare time to go to Peckham; and to write to ask you and dearest Harriette to come to me for an hour was not worth while.

‘ Kitty is with Emma for a week. If you want to see an account of the Fellows’ dinner . . . you will find two articles in the “Lancet” of July 13th. Love to dear Harriette. I hope you are progressing in your good work.

‘ Ever affectionately yours,

‘ T. TURNER.’

The Council meetings were a source of great pleasure and interest to Mr. Turner, for he enjoyed both the transaction of the business of the College, and the opportunity for personal intercourse with the leading medical men of the metropolis which these periodical visits afforded. Hurried though they were, in consequence of his professional duties at home, he regarded them as seasons of relaxation, and would often amuse his family by remarking that his five hours’ journey to and from London had been ‘a rest to him.’

‘ Punctual in all his arrangements as my dear father always was,’ Miss Turner writes, ‘so far as the uncertainty of his profession permitted, his visits to London were almost always of exactly the same length. Occasionally some one who knew of his being in town would take the opportunity to detain him for a consultation there; but excepting he was so detained, his constant plan was to leave Manchester in the morning by the 9.30 train, which brought him into London between two and three o’clock in the afternoon. He would then take a plate of soup at



the Euston Hotel, and drive to the College, where the Council meeting would occupy several hours. At the conclusion of the meeting he would sometimes accept an invitation from one of the members of the Council to dine with him; but if not, he would return to the Euston to dinner, retiring to his own room between nine and ten. He was called at five in the morning, and left London by train at six o'clock, arriving in Manchester at a little before twelve. His carriage was always in waiting for him at the station, and the letters which had arrived during his absence were sent down with it. From the station he would generally drive to see some patients, and would reach his own residence for his home consultations about one. His lunch would then be brought to him in his study, and I used to sit by him whilst he partook of it. It occupied, however, a very short space of time, and his consultations would then begin. Three rooms were always devoted to my dear father's patients at this time, though frequently five were required, in consequence of medical men at a distance continually making appointments to bring invalids over by train to see him; and when this occurred, two private rooms were needful—one for the patient, and another into which the medical man could retire with my father for conversation upon the case. But to return. The patients were assembled in one apartment, two other rooms having a door of communication between them, and in one or other of these rooms my father received each patient successively. Whilst he was occupied with a consultation in one room, another person was shown into the apartment adjoining; and as soon as the first interview was over my father passed into the next room, another seeking advice being immediately introduced into the vacated apartment, to whom my father returned in the same way, and thus no time was lost. His consultation hours had been for many years gradually lengthening, and were usually extended now from one o'clock until between five and six; but whenever my dear father had been in London (many patients having called in vain upon the day previous), they continually lasted from one o'clock until seven, and sometimes until nearly eight, in the



evening, when he would come up to dinner. Occasionally he then appeared very weary, but more frequently he would seem bright and energetic, talking with as much vivacity and animation as usual; and sometimes finish the day by spending two or three hours with his private secretary.'

We may perhaps allude in passing to Mr. Turner's very great consideration and kindness towards those who sought his advice, and whom he afterwards discovered to be in very limited or reduced circumstances; and to the clergy especially who were either curates or held only small livings. From such he would never receive a fee, but would decline it with the little pleasantry, 'When you are a bishop, *then*, my dear sir, you shall pay me.'

The following letter was addressed to the son previously mentioned upon the occasion of his being ordained priest:—

'Mosley Street: July 8, 1866.

'My dearest Edmund,—This letter of congratulation will find you on your return home. When I received the telegram last evening I was much rejoiced on dear Harriette's, yours, and all our accounts. Now, dear Edmund, that your mind is liberated from the anxiety of scholastic studies, I trust it will be concentrated upon your work, and that every blessing will attend your ministerial labours. Dearest Kitty wrote last evening. I was in London on Thursday, at the annual election at the College; but as you were from home I did not write to invite you. I shall in all probability be in London on Thursday next, when I shall, if possible, drive off to Peckham, and take a bed at your house; but you shall hear again. With much love and congratulations to dearest Harriette, believe me,

'Your affectionate father,  
'THO. TURNER.'

In the early part of the year 1867 Mr. Turner had a very severe illness, to which one of his daughters thus alludes: 'My dear father's extraordinary energy of character (greater even during the concluding years of his life than



that which is possessed by most young men at twenty or twenty-five years of age), made him most unwilling at any time to give way to the temporary hindrance which illness might present. The amount of suffering which he would endure rather than relinquish his professional duties was sometimes astonishing, and often a source of great anxiety to those who loved him. But his natural vigour of constitution was so great that it was wonderful the amount of illness through which he could (so to speak) *fight his way*, and never be laid aside, as most other persons assuredly would have been. This energy and Spartan endurance of character, carried him too far sometimes, and certainly upon the occasion of his illness in 1867. For many weeks he had been suffering from a severe gastric affection, which had prevented his touching solid animal food, and greatly weakened him; but he still pursued his usual routine of work, until such excessive enervation and difficulty of breathing came on as to compel the relinquishment of his active duties, confining him for a week to his own residence, after which he was obliged to leave home for change of air; and from this date I observed a diminution in his powers of walking, oppressed and quickened breathing resulting from exertion of this kind.'

Shortly after this illness Mr. Turner wrote:—

'Mosley Street: July 26, 1867.

'Dear Dr. Bell,—I am very glad to hear that you are recreating in London, with the drawback unfortunately of Mrs. B.'s indisposition. In reference to my accompanying you to Dublin, nothing would afford me more real pleasure; but you must know that although I have been at work again for the last month, I had been prevented by an attack of gastric fever from following my professional duties for nearly the whole of the previous month—a rare thing to happen to me, as I have been, through the mercy of God, and a sound constitution, wonderfully exempt for years from any indisposition. Although I am now very much myself again, I feel it imprudent to undertake a journey to Dublin, and the fulfilment of the various



duties which may devolve upon me at the Dublin meetings. I saw your name announced for two resolutions, therefore expect to hear something of you. Should I be in London on Council duties, I shall be sure to see you. My girl desires her kind regards to you and Mrs. B. Believe me,

‘Ever yours,  
‘THO. TURNER.’

And again, to the same friend:—

‘Mosley Street: August 4, 1867.

‘My dear Dr. Bell,—I thank God I am getting quite well; but it will not be in my power to go to Dublin, although I should have liked it amazingly. I am under the absolute necessity of going to an important Council meeting on Thursday. I am much disappointed in not being your companion; and, moreover, I received a kind invitation from Dr. Stokes, which I declined.

‘My daughter unites with me in kind regards, and desires me to say that we shall be most happy to see you if you come to Manchester on your way home. Kind compliments to Mrs. B.

‘Believe me ever yours,  
‘THO. TURNER.’

‘Manchester: May 3, 1868.

‘My dear Dr. Bell,—I assure you without loss of time that nothing you could do would ever be construed by me into offence; for although I am always glad to hear from you, to know how dear Mrs. Bell and you are going on, I charitably construed your silence into such full occupation at home and abroad as to leave you little leisure for friendly corespondence.

‘My daughter and I are very sorry to find that London residence has done Mrs. Bell but little good, in spite of the best opinion (which doubtless you availed yourself of) which London could afford. I fear her disorder is not within reach of medicinal means; but at the same time I hope you have found in them, administered by judicious and special knowledge of the nervous system, some pallia-



tive good. Human pathology is still an obscure thing, in despite of the researches of the boasted French pathologist. I must confess that, although theoretically I am pleased with his views, practically I have been disappointed.

‘— is a very kind, good fellow; we often meet at the College, and are on the best terms. My post of honour there is not a post of idleness. I am pretty regular in my attendance at the Council meeting, but I go one day, and return the next by the 6.15 train A.M.

‘I hope Richardson’s testimonial will reach £1,000. Shall you go to the presentation? If so, we may meet, perhaps, as I hope to be present on that occasion. . . . I have fifty things to talk to you about, but I cannot commit them to paper. My eldest son is with us from India. My daughter, thank God, is well, and as much occupied as ever in good works. She joins me in kindest regards to dear Mrs. Bell.

‘Believe me ever yours,

‘T. TURNER.’

‘Mosley Street: May 21, 1868.

‘My dear Dr. Bell,—I have just received your letter announcing the sad intelligence of the death of your dear wife, and under the circumstance of your absence from her at the time of her departure, which must, indeed, to your sensitive and affectionate heart, have been very distressing and deeply painful. Having experienced a similar bereavement I can truly sympathise with you, and am joined in condolence with you by my dear daughter, with whose sincere regards and my own, believe me, my dear Dr. Bell, ever sincerely yours,

‘THO. TURNER.’

‘Woodside, near Dolgelly: Sep. 3, 1868.

‘My dear Dr. Bell,—Your letter has been forwarded to me at this lovely place, situated between Dolgelly and Barmouth, where I am recreating with my daughters, son-in-law, and my India boy, for ten or twelve days, before beginning my winter labours.

‘I saw your name amongst the visitors at Oxford, and



was aware of your important object, but feared it would not be a very popular one, for I well remember the discussions on financial matters during poor Hastings' time. However, I approve of such enquiries, but must confess I have no taste for squabbles on money matters. I should have been at Oxford, but was prevented by two severe surgical cases, which I could not leave for a single day. I am pleased with the addresses, and I think the whole must have been a brilliant success; not, of course, without alloy, for it is an element invariably mixed up with actions and things of human construction.

'I wrote to you in London, offering my dear girls' and my own sympathy on account of the loss you have sustained, and rather expected that you contemplated a visit to Russia, as a complete change. We thought this was a very desirable undertaking; but when I found you were at Oxford I concluded that you had abandoned your intention.

'It will afford us great pleasure if you can run away from home for a week and spend it with us. We shall return home on the 12th, and shall be glad to receive you any time afterwards.

'There is to be a clerical conference in Manchester in the early part of October, when I shall be most happy to accommodate you with bed and board. My daughters unite with me in kindest regards. Believe me, dear Dr. B.,

'Ever yours sincerely,

'THO. TURNER.'

In the autumn of this year the Social Science Congress held its annual meeting in Manchester, and Charles Saville Roundell, Esq., Secretary to the Jamaica Commission under the late Sir Henry Storks, and Dr. B. W. Richardson, discoverer of the mode of producing 'local anæsthesia by ether spray' for painless operation, read most interesting papers at the Congress, and were Mr. Turner's guests. His own urgent professional engagements permitted him only to enjoy a very limited attendance at the meetings, but his interest in scientific investigations of every kind, continued with unabated ardour, and for some time his special studies had been directed to a



work, 'On Diseases and Accidents of the Foot, and on Compression in Aneurism,' for which his MSS. were nearly completed, but which he never published.

In the following summer Mr. Turner's youngest daughter had a serious illness, from which she recovered but slowly, continuing for many years more or less of an invalid; and to this circumstance many allusions are made in the letters which occur after this date.

Mr. Turner had also an attack of illness in November in this year, to which he refers in the following note written on December 5, 1869:—

'My dear Dr. Bell,—In looking through the "Goole Gazette" I am sorry to see it announced that you are ill; and if so I have no doubt that the cause is overwork. I hope you are convalescent; do, therefore, my dear friend, be prudent, and take more care of yourself. I can imagine your mental reply to this, "You're a nice fellow to talk of prudence and care not to do too much!" The fact is, it must be confessed, that we are very go-ahead, but I am determined to do less, and I would advise you to do the same. Let me hear how you are getting on. Hoping you are convalescent, believe me,

'Ever yours,

'THO. TURNER.

'N.B.—Thank God, Kitty is better. I have been at work again for the last three weeks.'

'Mosley Street: February 6, 1870.

'My dear Dr. Bell,—Your letter of this morning is a very welcome one, but I wish it had conveyed to me the good news of your perfect restoration to health, for I can imagine how very irksome your work must be under so much pressure, and how laborious it is to work up-hill *alone*.

'The universal complaint is what you make as to Church anxieties. What is to become of the Church if things don't mend? And how are they to mend with no tools to mend them? The great comfort for all who value religion is to know that we cannot be deprived of the



Bible! And Bible religion can never be pulled down nor altered by any sectarian combination.

‘I was not aware that my dear girl had made you acquainted with what “The Shadow” chose to say of me with respect to my early struggles in my attempts to form a Medical School in the provinces. However, it did succeed, but it cost me much thought, much labour, and much energy. I cannot find out the author of the paper, but he must have known the whole of my professional career to write what he did; and he must have some shade of fondness for me to write so amiably about me.

‘Dear Kitty is better, thank God, but still a good deal of an invalid. She is at home at present, and joins me in kind regards. With best wishes, believe me,

‘Ever yours,

‘THO. TURNER.’

In the two following letters reference is made to the death of a very old and valued servant in the family, whose history is as follows:—

About the year 1837 Mrs. Turner advertised in the Manchester papers for a superior upper nurse, and the widow of a chemist who had recently died in the town applied for the situation. She was evidently a person of great respectability, and was engaged by Mrs. Turner to take the charge of her nursery. But as time passed on, and her services were no longer required in this capacity, she was retained as housekeeper, all the members of the family having become greatly attached to her, and appreciating her many valuable and trustworthy qualities.

‘I cannot describe the comfort dear Lloyd was to me,’ Miss Turner writes, ‘during the first winter after my illness, and the *last* of her life. Many weary hours were beguiled as she read aloud to me, and a great number of my letters were written by her as I dictated. I shall never forget her faithful love, or the terrible shock of her sudden removal. She had lived with us more than thirty years.’

In a letter addressed to Mrs. Halstead, and penned the day after this excellent woman’s death, Mr. Turner writes:—



‘Mosley Street: March 23, 1870.

‘My darling Emma,—You will be much grieved to hear that poor Mrs. Lloyd has unexpectedly passed from amongst us. She was quite well yesterday morning; in the forenoon she suffered from severe pains. . . . . Medical assistance was called in, and the appropriate remedies were employed; but finding that poor Lloyd continued to sink, I was telegraphed for, and on my arrival I found too truly that the pulse was getting weaker and weaker, and she passed away about 11.30 last night.

‘I went over to Stockport<sup>1</sup> early again this morning, and found a house of great distress, especially as connected with darling Kitty, who feels her loss in Lloyd most acutely. Probably she has written you a few lines, narrating the sad story, but I thought it better to write to you myself. The loss of Lloyd now to dearest Kitty is very great; she is, however, better, and was to have returned with dear Lloyd this very day. How true is it, “Man proposeth, but God disposeth!” For little did we think yesterday morning that so sad a gloom was so soon to envelope the parsonage at Stockport, and our home in Mosley Street. Griffith Lloyd is now here, to make arrangements about removing the remains of his poor mother to Wolverhampton.

‘Love to dear Herbert and the dear children. Believe me,

‘Ever affectionately yours,

‘THO. TURNER.’

And to a friend and patient he thus alludes to the same event:—

‘Mosley Street: March 23, 1870.

‘My dearest C.,—Your letter and enclosure have safely reached me. Accept my best thanks for both. . . . . I am sure you will be sorry to hear that our dear old faithful servant, Mrs. Lloyd, has passed away from us, after a short and sudden illness. She has been with us more than thirty years, and latterly has had her sole duty in attending on my dear invalid daughter, to whom her loss will be

<sup>1</sup> Miss Turner was paying a visit to her brother at Stockport, having taken Mrs. Lloyd with her as her attendant, when the latter died.



almost irreparable. Yesterday morning poor Lloyd was quite well—at eleven o'clock last night a corpse. How sad and sudden! But, my dear girl, we must expect sorrow. When the weather is warmer I shall be glad to see you here. Believe me, &c., &c.,

‘THO. TURNER.’

And again, in writing to another:—

‘Mosley Street: April 15, 1870.

‘My dear Mrs. S.,—I am very, very much pleased to find that your dear husband is progressing favourably, but urge upon him the necessity of taking great care of himself, and of continuing the iron uninterruptedly.

‘Thanks for your enquiries about my daughter. Thank God, she is better, and I hope convalescent, but her convalescence has been temporarily interfered with by the sudden death of our old housekeeper, after upwards of thirty years’ servitude. She was the widow of an apothecary, and well-educated. . . . To lose her so suddenly was a great shock to all of us, for a more faithful person never lived. Give my kindest regards to your dear husband, and believe me,

‘Affectionately yours,

‘THO. TURNER.’

‘Mosley Street: October 18, 1871.

‘My dear Dr. Bell,—I am very, very sorry to hear of your trouble about curates, &c., but more especially as to your health being bad, and requiring relaxation. The truth, I think, is that your brain wants rest, a plight very much like that of my dear Kitty, for you and she have been go-ahead people. I am sorry to say that she is not much better, and is still at her sister’s, so that I am quite alone. I shall be most happy to see you, but am not able to do so this week . . . I shall be glad to see you next Thursday and Friday, and will keep myself as much disengaged as I can.

‘It is very sad to hear of so active and useful man as you are being on the shelf.

‘Ever yours,

‘THO. TURNER.’



About this time a very handsome silver inkstand was presented to Mr. Turner by the Governesses' Institution, to which he had for a number of years given his medical services, sympathising deeply with the many sufferings and trials of those for whose protection and benefit the home had been established. A list of the names of those who contributed to this testimonial was sent with it, numbering those of seventy-three ladies.

Mr. Turner thus wrote to the Lady Superintendent in acknowledgment of this offering of gratitude:—

‘Dear Miss S.,—However warmly I may have shown sympathy and interest in the united happiness and well-being of yourself and the lady inmates of the Governesses' Home, I never expected it would be reciprocated in so handsome and affectionate a proof from you and them, as manifested in the beautiful present of which the inmates of the Governesses' Institution have requested my acceptance. Please receive for yourself and the young ladies over whom you have so kindly watched my heartfelt thanks; and let me add the assurance that your united kindness towards me in this act, will never be forgotten by me. Of all the valuable donations I have ever received from my friends, for professional services, I have never had one presented which I shall value so highly as the gift with which you and your lady friends have honoured me. . . . .

‘Believe me, dear Miss S.,

‘Yours very sincerely,

‘THOS. TURNER.’

The reader will remember how earnestly Mr. Turner desired the establishment of a General College in Manchester, and that the Royal School of Medicine should be incorporated with it, only a few years after he had founded the latter; and in the autumn of 1872 he was permitted to see the realisation of this long-cherished project, to which the following note refers:—

‘Mosley Street: October 6, 1872.

‘My dear Dr. Bell,—My not having received a letter



from you in reply to mine, and the newspaper sent to me, induce me to fear that you will not be able to come here to-morrow.

‘The address is to be delivered at the School of Medicine, behind the Infirmary, at eleven o’clock precisely, and you will dine with us at six; and as the President of a certain department of Owens College has invited a number of gentlemen to a *soirée*, for which I have received an invitation for you (enclosed), I shall hope yet to see you. With kindest regards to Lady Dillon, believe me,

‘Sincerely yours, in haste,

‘THO. TURNER.’

The origin of the Owens College is doubtless familiar to all persons residing in and about Manchester; but as others who read these pages may be ignorant upon the subject, it will be well briefly to narrate the history of its establishment.

Mr. John Owens was a native of Manchester, and died on July 29, 1846, bequeathing all his personalty to charitable purposes, so far as it was capable of being thus devoted by will. First of all, to local charities; but the residue, which formed the greater part of his personalty, he desired to be confided to the care of fourteen trustees, for educational purposes. His two executors were included among the number of the trustees, and the remaining twelve, he selected himself by will, in trust to establish a college for instructing boys of fourteen years and upwards, ‘in such branches of learning and science as are now, and may be hereafter taught in the English Universities.’ A spacious house in Quay Street, formerly the residence of the well-known Mr. Richard Cobden, being considered suitable for the purpose, it was engaged until proper collegiate buildings might be erected, and upon these premises the College was formally opened on March 12, 1851, its management being committed to Principal Scott, and its various chairs being filled by Professor Greenwood (the present Principal), Professor Sandeman, Professor Williamson, and Professor Frankland. The services of two gentlemen to give instruction in French and German were also secured.



These premises were retained for many years ; but very munificent sums were being meanwhile contributed towards the erection of a handsome building, which has now been opened, but which was only in progress at the time of the union of the Royal School of Medicine with the Owens College.

Mr. Turner was invited to give the inaugural address, upon the occasion of their amalgamation, at the opening of the session 1872 to 1873. It was delivered in the lecture theatre of the school to a large audience—the Principal and professors of the College and many of its students being present, as well as the lecturers and pupils of the Medical School, and many friends of both institutions. In opening his address Mr. Turner said:—

‘I am here upon this occasion, at the request of the directors of the Owens College, to perform the mission of showing how this school and the College may be amalgamated, with the greatest possible advantage to both ; and I have undertaken the task feeling that I am so intimately connected with both, that I shall be acceptable to those who hear me.

‘The memories of the past will be considered by me this day, and will recal many happy associations. I do not hesitate to say that although to teach, is to undertake something which is laborious, those who do undertake it *con amore* will find, as I have done, that it is an agreeable thing to devote time to the instruction of others.

‘My decided opinion is, that the union between this school and the Owens College, will be the culminating point of the Manchester Royal School of Medicine and Surgery, while it will contribute greatly to the improvement and extension of the College ; and I see in the coalition, at no very distant date, the establishment of a Northern University.

‘We have something to offer to the Owens College by the union, and we expect something in return. The Owens College can offer in its professors a staff of able teachers on literature, science, and art, studies essential to the liberally conducted previous education of the medical student, and many other advantages ; but we believe that



the Owens College will derive accelerated progress from the union of this day. We can offer, in the first instance, *prestige*: our school has been established forty-eight years, and I trust we may all live to see its jubilee. We can offer, also, a large accession of pupils, and a thoroughly organised school, instruction being communicated in it upon every branch of medical science; and we can offer a valuable museum also, for the use of the students. In the early history of the school a great amount of anxiety and interest was felt, but the main part of this anxiety rested upon myself. When I first came to Manchester from the south, and attempted to form this institution, nothing of the kind had ever before been suggested in the provinces. As you may well believe, therefore, when I ventured to propose the establishment of a School of Medicine, which would supersede the necessity of students going to London, in order to obtain the amount of knowledge required to pass their examinations, I met with some opposition; but I was encouraged by my medical friends, and I did not receive the antagonism I expected. My first colleague was the celebrated John Dalton, and my second, my old and valued friend Sir James Bardsley. Since that time the School of Medicine has done a great work. We should be ungrateful to the city of Manchester, and to its citizens, if we did not, as medical men, endeavour to maintain the celebrity of the city. If we look at our Infirmary and other hospitals, we cannot have stronger evidence of the desire felt by the people of Manchester to relieve human suffering. Private individuals, such as Mr. Humphry Nichols, Mr. Barnes, and Mr. Satterfield, have done a great deal for our local charities; but this is not all—liberality has been shown in other ways. What has been given to the Owens College to carry out its splendid work would take me an hour to tell. In the success of that College we shall all be participators. If we look to our own school, we shall find that it has also received public favours. The munificent sum of £2,500 has recently been given to the Owens College, for the physiological department of the school, by Miss Brackenbury, with which it is intended



to establish two physiological scholarships of £50 per annum each.<sup>1</sup>

After other remarks, Mr. Turner concluded his address in these words:—

‘I glory in the prospect before us. I am sure that the amalgamation effected this day, will be greatly to the honour of the united institutions, to ourselves, to the city, and to the county. Anyone who would stand in the way of this union, is not a friend to society, or to that great scheme of education which is now going forward throughout the world. Education is a great memory of the past, and a vast object and anticipation of the future, and I regard the events of this day as exceedingly important in their bearing upon this great subject.’

This was the last occasion upon which Mr. Turner’s voice was heard in the place in which its sound had been so familiar for the extended period of nearly fifty years. He had long resigned the Chair of Anatomy and Physiology in the school, but it need scarcely be added that his deepest interest continued still to be exercised in its welfare, and at the opening meeting of every session his welcome face had ever appeared in its lecture theatre. Upon this occasion, however, it would almost seem that a foreboding had presented itself to the assembled medical students that they would never again see him in their midst, or listen to his clear tones and kindly words, upholding the dignity of the profession which they had selected, and encouraging them to the diligent pursuit of the studies which it involved, in order that they might be enabled to discharge its responsible duties well and faithfully. Such a forecasting of the future appeared, as we have said, to have impressed itself upon the minds of the students who listened to Mr. Turner then for the last time,

<sup>1</sup> At the time of the amalgamation of the Medical School with the Owens College an agreement was made by the Council with Mr. Turner and Mr. Southam for the purchase of their interest in the property of the school; the arrangement including the transfer of a certain sum then invested in Consols, in reference to which a resolution was passed to the effect that it should be held by the College by way of endowment—the income being applied for the encouragement of students, under the name of “Turner Medical Prizes.”



for at the conclusion of the meeting, some arranged themselves along the sides of the passage which led from the lecture theatre to the entrance, whilst others formed themselves into a circle around the carriage of the revered founder of their school, and faithful friend, in order heartily to cheer him as he passed from the lecture theatre, and drove from the entrance-door, thus evidencing their affection and their respect.

Though he has passed away from them, may they listen still to the voice with which his example addresses them! <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The following extract from a periodical entitled "The Shadow," for December, 1869, is so illustrative of the foregoing remarks, that the author cannot refrain from presenting it to the reader. After a brief account of the origin of the Royal School of Medicine in Manchester, the editor thus speaks of Mr. Turner, as a lecturer, and of the nature of his intercourse with the students. "He was ever most thoroughly in earnest in his lectures, seeming to have one object, and one object only in view, to make his hearers capable of following their profession with advantage and honour to themselves, and to it. His manner to his class was kind and fatherly in the extreme, for he did, in truth, look upon the members of it, with an almost parental eye. His acts of kindness, we might almost say love, to his students, or as he used to delight in calling them, "his young friends"—that have come to our knowledge, are far more numerous than we have the power to tell, but he may rest assured, they will never be forgotten. When he left the lecture theatre for good, he did indeed leave a void. Still on each recurring first of October, we see his face and hear his voice once again in the place that knew him so well, and to hear the ringing cheers and loud hurrahs (and medical students *do* know how to hurrah) is to prove, were any proof necessary, the respect and admiration felt for him. May he be spared to receive in the same place, similar ovations for many years to come."



## CHAPTER XVI.

MR. TURNER AS THE SYMPATHISING FRIEND OF HIS PATIENTS—  
HIS POWER OF WINNING THEIR CONFIDENCE AND ATTACHMENT  
—CORRESPONDENCE WITH SOME OF THEM IN ILLUSTRATION  
OF THIS—CHARACTERISTIC INCIDENTS AND PROFESSIONAL  
ANECDOTES — THE CHRISTIAN PHYSICIAN AND HIS DYING  
PATIENT.

ALL who have had any experience of severe and especially of *protracted* illness, either personally, or in watching by the bedside of others, know the instinctive yearning for sympathy which is felt by the sufferer at such times; and how perfectly unable some really very kind-hearted persons are to enter into the feelings of the invalid or to communicate, in even a small degree, the comfort required. No doubt a vivid imagination is of great assistance in helping forward a realisation of the extent of endurance, of which a single sentence is sometimes the powerful, although the only expression; and the absence of this power of realisation will often occasion an apparent indifference of manner, which would quickly vanish, if the really kind heart of the listener could be made thoroughly to understand the true meaning of what he is hearing, and witnessing. That such persons are lacking in a very important qualification for nursing is doubtless true, but it may be a comfort to some invalids in reading these pages, to remember that such apparent coldness, if they perceive it in those who surround them, may be regarded in many cases as a defect of the mind, rather than of the heart; and that there is, no doubt, an error again, and perhaps a more dangerous one, on the other side, where a vivid imagination is not properly



kept in check by a sound judgment and a well-balanced will, so that the conduct becomes impulsive and injudicious.

These thoughts are applicable to the physician, no less than to the nurse, and indeed to all persons who are brought in contact with the suffering, for whose comfort and welfare it is most important, not only that they should feel assured of the sympathy of those with whom they have to do, but also that they should place the most implicit confidence in the power possessed by those who surround them, to accomplish all which they undertake. The want of this upon the part of an invalid, is doubtless sometimes altogether capricious, but it will often be found to be exercised towards those who are perfectly capable of doing, and willing to perform, all that is needful for the sufferer's comfort, but whose anxiety to discharge their duty aright, leads to a measure of self-distrust, which is detected by the quick eye of the patient.

The foregoing remarks may serve to explain a problem with which many an invalid has been more or less perplexed in reference to his medical attendant; and especially if, from protracted suffering, or intricacy of case, *many* physicians have been consulted. Why is it that in some he has felt such confidence, while in others of equal standing, ability, and experience he has felt none? Why have some of his medical attendants so cheered and brightened his sickroom, even when, through extremity of illness, there was nothing in the opinion which they were compelled to express, which very greatly encouraged him? And why have others, who were equally kind men, depressed him by their visits, even when his unfavourable symptoms were so far abating as to permit of a reassuring judgment being formed upon his case? The answer to the former question will be found in the natural penetration, and promptitude of decision, aided by extended experience, which some medical men possess; and to the latter, very largely, in their varying power of realisation and expression.

Mr. Turner's professional career has been now fully



traced, and the steps have been noted by which he attained eminence. We have seen that his superior talents were combined with an energy of character which manifested itself in the most ardent pursuit of knowledge; and high excellence was, therefore, the natural and necessary result, of the indefatigable perseverance with which he exercised his great abilities. Let the medical student ponder his example, and follow it, remembering that even *his* talent would have availed little, apart from those habits of untiring industry by which he was distinguished throughout his entire life.

But the thoughts with which this chapter opened were suggested by other qualifications which Mr. Turner emphatically possessed. His intellectual gifts, and earnest cultivation of them, would have almost necessarily gained a high professional distinction for him, and secured an extensive practice; but the powerful hold which he secured upon the hearts of his patients, was as remarkable as it was again and again proved to be tenacious. Abundantly possessed of a happy and cheerful temperament, quick feelings, and a generous and kind heart, the power of expressing all that he wished to convey of kindness and sympathy, was given to him in a rare degree. 'If Mr. Turner cannot prescribe anything for me, yet I should like to see him; it does me so much good,' was a sentiment often upon the lips of chronic sufferers, for whose alleviation every remedy had been tried in vain; and how many of this class had their existence brightened by his kindly smile, and words of sympathy, will never be known on earth. The remembrance of one case is vividly present now, where a lady, who was in reduced circumstances, and afflicted with that terrible disease, cancer, received week after week, and (if more than usually suffering), many times in the week, through several successive years, the dearly-prized visits of her medical attendant, without any pecuniary reward; her weary days cheered and shortened (when sufficiently well to read) by perusing the periodicals, which she was unable herself to purchase, but with which he regularly supplied her from his own house; and his sympathising interest,



ending only with her life. The beautiful words of Scripture, 'When the ear heard me, then it blessed me; and when the eye saw me it gave witness to me. . . The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me: and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy,' are brought to memory in recording such acts as these; and if the prayerfully-uttered blessings of the afflicted and dying are heard above (and surely we know they are), it is no less certain that, in answer to many such, some of God's choicest mercies were poured upon the head of him for whom they were offered up.

'Throughout my entire life,' Miss Turner writes, 'I feel that I have lived under the shadow of my beloved father's name in Manchester. Everywhere I have been treated with a deference and attention, which I owed to the sentiments of respect and admiration, so widely entertained towards him by persons occupying every rank in society; and the associations, interests, and friendships of my past life, will be ever sacred memories to me, in whatever place my future days may be spent.

'Often in the morning, when the letters were brought in, and I sat by as my dear father opened them, I used to observe a change in his countenance as he read; see his eyes fill with tears, and the letter would then be quietly laid aside. I always knew upon these occasions what the purport of the communication was; and if it had been penned by a personal friend of the family he would sometimes say, "A note of gratitude from Mr. or Mrs. —," adding, "What a fool I am! I would give anything not to feel such things as I do."

'Very often grateful allusions to my dear father's kindness in professional attendance, would occur in letters which I received; but if I attempted to read such aloud to him, it was rarely indeed that I was permitted to finish all that had reference to himself. "Not another word," he would say; "I have heard quite enough," his countenance plainly showing how deeply he had felt all he had listened to.'

Few, indeed, have ever received (because few have deserved) more overflowing evidences of gratitude than



fell to Mr. Turner's lot, from the substantial marks of appreciation offered by the wealthy, down to the fervent 'God bless you, sir!' of the needy, to whom his professional skill had brought alleviation, his bounty the required comforts, and his tender kindness, above all, the longed-for soothing, which no money can procure. The following letters, though necessarily brief, in consequence of the pressure of his professional engagements, and containing no original thought, are interesting from the spirit of affectionate interest which breathes through them, showing how truly Mr. Turner was the sympathising friend of his patients, alike in joy and in sorrow, and the truth of the statement which has been made, of the deep attachment with which they regarded him:—

'Mosley Street, March 4, 1864.

'Dear Miss D.,—First of all accept, for your dear mamma, papa, and yourself, my best thanks for your very kind present. It is indeed very good of you all to remember me as you do.

'I cannot tell you how pleased I am that the lectures interested you; and as you value them so much, I shall not forget to send you a ticket on all future occasions, for you really are a praiseworthy and pains-taking student; and how you could accomplish what you have done in the way of notes of the lectures, puzzles me. I have not had time to minutely examine them, but I *will* do so, and will undertake (at your request) to correct all flagrant mistakes or misunderstandings, if such are to be found. With kindest regards, believe me,

'Sincerely yours,

'THO. TURNER.'

'Dec. 24, 1866.

'My dearest S.,—You are a very naughty girl to suppose that I should expect from you any evidence of gratitude and affection for any little past services to you and yours. However, I accept, my dear girl, your Christmas present with great pleasure, and shall have it taken great care of for the donor's sake. Thanks for your kind wishes on this



usually festive season; but—for good, no doubt—I have been deprived of many sources of association with the past, but still am thankful for what, in the providence of God, I still have. These feelings may be experienced (though not expressed) by many, and as the years roll on we become more sensitive to them. In all families there must be much to chequer our onward course, and you and yours have felt this. It is a lesson, my dear S., of importance to learn; and if we learn it wisely, it is profitable. That you and your dear parents and family may have much happiness in store (for you all) during the approaching year, is the wish and prayer of

‘Yours ever affectionately,

‘THOS. TURNER.’

‘Mosley Street, January 22, 1867.

‘My dear C.,—To prove to you how much I appreciate your affectionate letter and good wishes, I shall not lose a single post in reciprocating mine to you and all your family circle, and to assure you all of my best and most sincere wishes for your health and happiness during the current year. You say your Christmas has been a quiet one, and so has mine, my dear daughter Kitty, and my two grand-daughters, having formed the whole party, so that all past associations with the season have paled down to a small recognition of the time and its accompaniments. It must, my dear C., be so. Changes are continually happening in families; some who cast a cheer over the festive board have passed away to a better feast; others have formed for themselves little family circles; others change in some way or other, and we all of us do the same, proving that this is not our abiding-place and perpetual stay. There is no doubt a Providence in this, and a lesson which we ought to learn and profit by.

‘You are very naughty to say, “Out of sight, out of mind.” I have very often thought of you, and therefore the accusation is not true. I am glad to hear you are a little better, but am sorry for your troublesome companion, the tic, for which warmth is the chief remedy;



but a useful auxiliary is a little lint dipped in warm laudanum and applied to the seat of pain for half an hour. . . . . I shall show you the beautiful slippers when next I see you!! I had heard of the floods in your neighbourhood, and you would learn from the papers how the inhabitants of Broughton, and Salford, have suffered from the recent inundation. I can imagine how damp everything still is about you, the ground being flat, and without drainage. I trust, however, none of you will have suffered permanently by the disaster. God bless you, dear C.; and with kindest and best wishes to your dear mamma and sisters, believe me,

‘ Affectionately yours,

‘ THOS. TURNER.’

‘ Waterloo Hotel, nr. Liverpool, June 11, 1867.

‘ My dear——,—Thanks for your very kind and affectionate letter, to which I forthwith send a reply, which I am sure will gratify you—it is that I am convalescing most satisfactorily. My propensity is to keep my illnesses to myself, not wishing to distress my numerous friends by creating in them any anxiety about poor worthless me; but so severe, for one week, was my attack of gastric fever, as really to cause alarm in the minds of my friends. I have always enjoyed such good health, and possessed so sound a constitution, that I do not surrender to a trifling indisposition; but my recent attack threw me so thoroughly *hors de combat*, and inspired my dear girls, and immediate friends, with such deep anxiety, that I thought it my duty to yield to all my sympathisers, and use diligently the means suggested for my benefit, reserving to myself, however, the character of being *my own physician*. Thank God all is ending well, I trust, for which I feel an abundantly grateful heart. I am glad to hear that your dearest mamma is better. . . . . Give my affectionate regards to the whole of your family circle, in which my dearest Kitty (who is sitting beside me) joins. I hope you persist in the use of the application and medicine for your obstinate ailment, and that you will be able



to make another visit to Mosley Street during the summer months.

‘God bless you, my dear C. Believe me ever

‘Affectionately yours,

‘THO. TURNER.’

‘Mosley Street, Nov. 28, 1867.

‘My dear C.,—I am sorry that you and yours have had any anxiety about me. The truth is, I was called to the neighbourhood of Chester, and, owing to the weather, and inconvenience of trains, I got a severe cold, which I feared might lead to rheumatic fever; but, thank God, it was averted, and, with little care, and less physic, I am myself again, and have been occupied in my work for the last ten days. Although I did all I could to keep my ailment a secret, it spread like wildfire, and caused, I dare say, some trouble to you and your friends.

‘I am much pleased to find that you are all improved by the change to Southport. Give my kindest regards to all, and believe me, dear C.,

‘Sincerely yours,

‘THO. TURNER.’

‘Manchester, Christmas Day, 1867.

‘My dear ——,—I found on my desk this morning, among other letters, one from you, offering best wishes for the season, which I most affectionately reciprocate. With me, however, Christmas is not like what it once was, and I dare say the same thing is experienced by you and yours; however, it is still very delightful to be remembered by friends on certain occasions, with more vividness than on others, for it seems, as a sunbeam, to illumine the dulness of ordinary life. I am glad you have enjoyed yourself in Scotland, and that your dear aunt has the prospect of a happy marriage. Pray give my kindest regards to her and my best wishes. I am sorry to hear so poor an account of your dear mamma; but as you are silent in the case of your sister, I hope she is better.



‘I thought I would answer your letter at once, to assure you that I am still

‘Affectionately yours,

‘THO. TURNER.’

‘Dear Mrs. ——,—I cannot allow a day to pass without conveying to you and your family my deep sympathy on the bereavement which you have sustained in the death of dear Mr. ——. The loss, however, leaves this satisfaction, that you and your family have (with others) done all that could be done to prolong life, and this without any drawback in the way of continued acute suffering; but it gave time for the happy meeting of your children, and for the bestowment by your dear husband (when in a collected frame of mind) of his blessing, and good advice on all, which are privileges which can never cease to be appreciated.

‘Ever believe me, &c., &c.,

‘Yours,

‘THO. TURNER.’

‘Dear ——,— . . . . Before concluding this medical scrawl, I must say a word to guard you all as much as possible against worry and anxiety of mind, for they have serious effect on dear M—— and, indeed, on all of you. These evils are unhappily often an ingredient in domestic life, and that, too, from causes over which we cannot always exercise control; but it is the duty of every branch of the family to strive against them, for *each one's*, as well as for the *family* comfort; indeed, they *must* be striven against *by all*, especially for the sake of such as *cannot* bear anxiety with impunity.

‘With kindest regards to all,

‘Affectionately yours,

‘T. T.’

‘Mosley Street, March 15, 1867.

‘Dear Miss ——,—I have seen my friend, and have also spoken to others about your brother's outfit. I am



told that your father need not incur much expense; the ordinary clothing of home will answer as well as anything that can be purchased. . . . .

‘My friend tells me there will be books on board for reading; but your brother must take with him plenty of paper and memorandum-books, and an essential thing is a thick travelling-rug.

‘In reference to bed and bedding, I find that if your father speaks to the steward of the ship he can provide all that is necessary, and at one-half the expense. If anything occurs to me I will write or call; and if you and your father have any questions to ask me, and can call in Mosley Street, I will give you all the information I can.

‘In haste,

‘Affectionately yours,

‘THO. TURNER.

‘P.S.—If practicable, I should like to see your brother again before he goes; if not, I wish him “God-speed.”’

‘Mosley Street, Feb. 16, 1867.

‘My dear Miss ——,—It was with deep regret that I received an announcement of your dear mamma’s death, and I do most sincerely condole with you and your dear father and brother on account of your sad bereavement. The loss you have sustained cannot be compensated, although palliated by the assurance that your dearest mamma is happier *now* than all the care and sympathy which your papa and you, my dear girl, could confer upon her could make her.

‘May God bless you and yours with every happy feeling and condolence, for even happiness may be felt in the assurance of the blessed exchange which your dear mamma has made.

‘I shall call and see you soon. With kindest regards to all, believe me,

‘Sincerely yours,

‘THO. TURNER.’



‘ August 27, 1868.

‘ My dearest ——,—I could not happily leave home without acknowledging your kind and well-chosen little volume, which I shall read on my journey. You seem never to neglect *your* duty in reminding others of *theirs*. It will have its reward. God bless you!

‘ Ever affectionately yours,  
‘ T. T.’

‘ January 1, 1869.

‘ My dear S.,—I cannot allow this auspicious day to pass, without communicating to you and your family circle, my heartfelt prayer and wishes for a greater amount of happiness in the forthcoming year, than has fallen to the lot of any of you for some years past. We *must* have sorrows, and they are lessons, if we choose to learn and to profit by them; but it happens, in the providence of God, that some have less anxiety, and a larger share of happiness than others. Whether this be for good or evil, is a problem not to be unravelled by human scrutiny. . . .

‘ The St. Ann’s Christmas-tree brought in about 25*l.*, thanks to you and other friends. I have selected something for you, which will be sent to-morrow. Kindest regards to all.

‘ Ever, &c.,  
‘ T. T.’

‘ June 4, 1869.

‘ My dearest ——,—I should have written to you and, through you, to your dear father and mother and sisters, to congratulate you all on James’ marriage, but I have been harassingly occupied in various ways; and as next week is one when all railway places are taken up by holiday folks, the time will not suit me for anything but professional urgencies; although it is *possible* that I may have to go to see my poor girl at Marton, where she is now on a visit, and I hope with much benefit. I do wish your brother every happiness, for he is indeed a very



worthy fellow. I dare say you were all very gay, and I hope the little excitement will have done your parents good. Give my kindest regards to all, and believe me

‘ Affectionately yours,  
‘ T. TURNER.’

‘ Mosley Street, August 11, 1869.

‘ My dear Miss ——,—I hope this reply to your note of this morning will save you the trouble and time which your calling in Mosley Street would entail upon you, for on the eve of the important *to-morrow* I know you must have much to do, and no time to spare on mere ceremonial matters. I therefore write to tell you how much happiness I wish you in your married life, and my prayer is that God may bless both of you with prosperity in the best sense of the word. Thanks for your wish that I should attend the marriage breakfast, but you have yourself assigned a reason why I could not; moreover, I have to go to London to-morrow, and shall not return till Friday. With kind remembrances to your dear father, and best wishes to you and yours, in haste,

‘ Ever affectionately yours,  
‘ THO. TURNER.’

‘ Mosley Street, Wednesday.

‘ My dear ——,—I thank you much for your kind and affectionate note, containing such good, seasonable wishes from you and your dear family circle, all of which I reciprocate with the most heartfelt pleasure. My daughter joins me in every good wish, and I am pleased to tell you she is better.

‘ I am grieved to hear that your brother has not improved. I saw one of his physicians in consultation this morning. This visitation of Providence has been a source of sorrow to you and yours. Dark spots must occur in this chequered life, and it is right they should; but although this is admitted by *all*, yet all would fain escape them. This is *human*, and humanity *will* hang



about us, however much we try to shake it off. Present our kindest regards to your dearest mamma and sisters, and

‘ Believe me,  
 ‘ Ever, &c., &c.,  
 ‘ THOS. TURNER.’

‘ My dear ——,—Would I could give you the help and consolation which you and your dear parents require. I would spare no trouble or time. I do hope, however, all will be right in the right way. . . . .

‘ I am of opinion that ingratitude is a great sin, and a sin which God abhors, and will never allow to go unpunished. Not that I would hastily attribute the girl’s silence to such a cause. . . . .

‘ Yours, &c., &c.,  
 ‘ THOS. TURNER.’

‘ Dec. 26, 1870.

‘ My dear S.,—I do most sincerely reciprocate all your good wishes, so warmly and affectionately tendered in your letter of yesterday. Most sincerely do I wish that you and all about you may enjoy good health and every blessing in store for those who deserve it. . . . .

‘ You, no doubt, have a sort of family party, smaller than at one time, since year by year the circle diminishes. It is so with us; ours now is very small, consisting only of my two sons and the wife of one of them, so that this is a great reduction from what it was before my dearest wife’s death; but this *must* be, my dear S., more or less with all families, for various little circles absorb the great one, until all is changed.

‘ It is very pleasing, and a matter of thankfulness to me, that my dear girl is fairly convalescent.

‘ With the best wishes of the season to all of you,

‘ Believe me,  
 ‘ Ever, &c.,  
 ‘ THOS. TURNER.’



'77 Mosley Street, Feb. 8, 1870.

'Dear Mrs. S.,—Thanks for your letter. I am glad your husband is better; but do not let him exert himself too much. . . . Thanks for the syllabus you have enclosed. My friends will not allow me rest from my labours as a lecturer, but my occupations prohibit my lecturing at a distance from home. Thanks, however, for your very kind invitation to your happy home, should I wander from my own towards Blackburn. With kindest regards to Mr. S., believe me,

'Ever sincerely yours,  
'THO. TURNER.'

'Mosley Street, Oct. 16, 1870.

'Dear Mrs. ——,—I have just received your letter; and to prevent any anxiety to you or your husband *before* or *on* the Sabbath, on the score of your fears as to how I may take your letter, I shall at once write a few lines to say that perhaps my objection is not too overpowering to admit of palliation, but I much fear that the labour and anxiety which your dear husband is laying out for himself, will be too great to be undertaken with impunity.

'I only wish that some eligible situation may occur, and that soon, to supersede the necessity for his embarking in this project at all; but as his mind is fixed upon it, I see no remedy but to submit, and I hope and pray that Mr. S. may be able to accomplish his task without physical or mental mischief. Excuse haste. Kindest regards.

'Affectionately yours,  
'T. T.'

'January 4, 1872.

'My dear C.,—The New Year's Day has passed away, and I have not performed my usual annual duty of wishing you and your dearest mamma and friends the best wishes of the season. I do this now with all seriousness and heartfelt sincerity, for I cannot forget our long acquaintance, and how much I am indebted to your family for all the confidence which they have always reposed in



me as their medical man. May you, and all of you, live happily and healthfully for years to come, is the sincere friendly prayer of

‘Yours affectionately,  
‘THO. TURNER.’

‘Mosley Street, Saturday, April 6, 1872.

‘Dear Mr. ——,—I have just received the enclosed telegram from Nice, and shall wait with anxiety for the letter which the doctor has promised to write, and which no doubt is now on its way, and I hope near at hand, but I think it best to apprise you of the arrival of the enclosed.

‘The interpretation of it is, no doubt, that George has had an attack of congestion of the lungs, accompanied by what is usual, hæmorrhage. I trust that it may have been subdued, as it usually is, and more easily perhaps in a climate like Nice. I shall wait the arrival of the letter with anxiety, and will transmit it to you and dear Mrs. —— without loss of time. I am sorry to give you and yours anxiety. . . . With kindest regards,

‘Ever yours,  
‘THO. TURNER.’

‘Mosley Street, Tuesday.

‘Dear Mr. ——,—Thank you and yours much for your kind enquiries after my health. For the last few days I have had a most severe cold, and the severity of the weather has, no doubt, retarded my convalescence, which is usually very rapid, so that I am soon at my work again. However, I am getting right, and getting tired, too, of being idle.

‘The perusal of ——’s letter has given me great pleasure. I know the doctor to whom he refers very well, and can pronounce him to be eminent in his profession. . . . His opinion is very reassuring, and confirms that given by Dr. T——, Dr. F——, and others, that —— will be restored to health, without, I hope, the relic of bronchial relaxation. . . . With kind regards to Mrs. ——

‘Believe me sincerely yours,  
‘T. T.’



‘Mosley Street, June 12, 1872.

‘My dear Mr. S.,—Your letter reached me this morning, and I cannot lose any time in congratulating my dear friend your wife, and you, on the prospect you have opened before you, and which I trust and pray may in every respect be happily realised.

‘I cannot say that the information has come from you first-hand, for you know ladies have tongues, and some of them are with me very confidential.

‘Give my kindest regards to your dear wife, and congratulate her for me on all bright prospects.

‘Ever yours sincerely,  
‘T. T.’

‘New Year’s Day, 1873.

‘My dearest ——,—I do with full heart and feeling reciprocate all the good wishes and good feelings conveyed in your welcome letter of this morning, and beg you to circulate them amongst your good friends and relations assembled under your dear mamma’s roof.

‘You say truly, my dear S., that we know not the sorrows and separations in store for any of us; but this we know, that what God does, He does in mercy, although we may not see it.

‘Dear Kitty, thank God, is better, and joins with me in much affection and sympathy for you all.

‘Believe me, my dear S.,  
‘Ever, &c.,  
‘THOS. TURNER.’

‘Feb. 26, 1873.

‘My dear C.,—I am grieved greatly to hear of the death of your dearest sister, and so suddenly too, and without previous illness. These visitations are awful, but God is “too good to be unkind;” therefore, in His inscrutable providence, whatever He decrees is best, although it may seem hard to us. I feel deeply for your dear mamma and all of you, especially for the dear husband and children, to whom we beg you will convey our sympathy and condolence.

‘I am sure, my dear C., that you and all about your



dear mother will find it hard to sustain her under her present affliction; but, tried as she has been on various occasions, she has learnt the lesson that there is only one source of comfort in the sorrows which befall us in our present life, which no doubt she fully realises.

‘With much love, ever sincerely yours,

‘THO. TURNER.’

Upon the occasion of one of Mr. Turner’s rapid visits to London, to attend the Council meeting at the College, he made an appointment with a young man who was not in affluent circumstances, and who was in bad health, to meet him at the Euston Hotel for a consultation. Two or three years afterwards, this gentleman wrote as follows, in allusion to this interview:—

‘I shall never forget how kindly he (Mr. Turner) received me the first and only time I ever saw him. Putting his hands upon my shoulders, he said, with a tenderness I never before believed a *man* could possess, “My poor boy, I am so sorry you are such a sufferer; it must be hard for you.” He relieved my bodily pain by his advice, but his tenderness softened a hardness that was fast growing in my heart. . . . . God *has* blessed him, *is* blessing, and *will* bless him.’

Mr. Turner’s character was, however, a thoroughly balanced one, and the tenderness of feeling which constituted such a conspicuous element in it, and which was so thoroughly appreciated by those who sought his advice, never interfered with his performance of duty, or unnerved him for its discharge, however painful to his natural feelings, that discharge might be.

Before and after an operation all his sympathy would be drawn out towards his patient, but at the time, the skilful performance of his duty for the sufferer’s good, so entirely absorbed his attention, that no thought of the pain which was being inflicted, distracted him from the work he had in hand. These remarks have more especial reference, of course, to the period which preceded the dis-



covery and application of chloroform, which has proved such a merciful alleviation of suffering in recent times. But in earlier days, it sometimes required (as we have seen in the case of Henry Bagley Clarke) much nerve to witness pain, as well as to endure it, and there were occasions upon which Mr. Turner felt much tried in the anticipation of the suffering which must be inflicted. This was especially the case in reference to children, of whom he was very fond, and who seemed instinctively to recognise his feeling towards them.

As one of the surgeons of the Infirmary he had often to operate upon children, and would frequently remark upon the trial it was to him. A touching incident occurred upon one of these occasions, which will never be forgotten by those who witnessed it. A little fellow had been brought into the hospital, and the required operation had been successfully performed by Mr. Turner, when the child, looking up from the operating-table into the kind face that was bending over him, said, in the Lancashire dialect, 'Clip me' (kiss me). In allusion to this circumstance Mr. Turner afterwards said, that he did not know when an occasion had arisen professionally, in reference to which he had felt more deeply moved; and before all the assembled medical men and students, he stooped down and kissed the child. Surely a lesson in operative skill was not the only one learnt by those who witnessed the scene that day, but one also of sympathetic kindness.

Besides the attachment of his patients Mr. Turner enjoyed also their almost unbounded confidence; his prompt and accurate diagnoses of cases, as well as his acknowledged talent, and great experience, contributing largely to foster this. Having listened to the details of a case, and asked a few pointed questions concerning it, his opinion was often decisively formed, and generally found to be accurate. Though promptly made, his judgments were not unguarded ones, but conclusions arrived at from widely-extended observation, and known facts, to the right application of which his natural penetration of character guided him; and some incidents in illustration of these remarks may not be without interest.



Upon one occasion Mr. Turner was called in consultation upon the case of a lady who appeared to be sinking. Every kind of food had been rejected for some time, and her friends were in the deepest anxiety respecting her. Having ascertained the state of her pulse, Mr. Turner requested that no further attempt to administer food should be made by those who surrounded her, but desired that every now and then a teaspoonful of water should be given to her. He saw the patient again in the evening, and found that the water had been retained. The same mode of treatment was ordered to be pursued, and Mr. Turner repeated his instructions on the following morning. Great alarm began now to be felt by the lady's friends, who thought that she would most assuredly sink unless she partook of some nourishment. But Mr. Turner was carefully watching the pulse of his patient, and assured them that there was no fear of this result, and that until the digestive organs had recovered tone, nothing could be more injurious, or weakening, than the constant administration, and rejection of food. On the evening of the second, or third day, Mr. Turner said, 'I think Mrs. — will very soon ask for food now, and whatever she requests, give her.' In the middle of the night the lady said to the anxious friend who was watching beside her, 'I feel as if I could eat something.' The enquiry was eagerly made, 'What shall I get for you?' 'It is of no use for me to say what I should like,' the patient answered, 'for you will not give it to me.' 'Yes,' returned her friend, 'whatever it is, you shall have it.' It was well that Mr. Turner's injunction had been expressed so decisively, for probably even *he* would have been somewhat staggered (had he been present) by the reply, 'Well, then, I should like some warm beer, and toasted cheese.' The nurse, however, obediently followed the directions she had received. The requested food was given, and was retained, and the lady rapidly recovered from that time.

Upon another occasion a gentleman called upon Mr. Turner who, in performing some sleight-of-hand feat, had swallowed a clasp-knife. He was greatly alarmed, and urgently enquired whether an operation could be per-



formed to remove it. Mr. Turner assured him that this was impossible, but expressed his opinion strongly, that if the patient would only remain quiet, the gastric juice would so act upon the knife, that all would ultimately be well. The gentleman appeared, however, to be very dissatisfied with this judgment, and expressed his intention of going up to London, in order to see if an operation would not be undertaken by some medical man there. Mr. Turner told him frankly that such a course would be suicidal, and that no surgeon anywhere, could be of service in such a case; that his safety consisted in remaining quiet, and that the fatigue of the journey to London (if he persevered in undertaking it) would most likely end fatally. No argument availed, and the result prognosticated by Mr. Turner took place. Nothing could, of course, be done; inflammation was brought on, and the patient died. A *post-mortem* examination was made, and revealed the truth of the opinion expressed by Mr. Turner, the gastric juice having almost entirely dissolved the blade of the knife, and a considerable portion also of the handle.

A singular instance, showing the same accuracy of judgment, occurred in the case of a young lady, who called upon Mr. Turner in order to consult him after a fortnight of severe suffering, from unintermittent hiccup. She had been under the care of several medical men, but with no relief, as they had utterly failed to discover from what this distressing affection proceeded. Mr. Turner promptly expressed the opinion that it arose from the spine; and directing his treatment accordingly, his efforts were crowned with the most complete success.

Few observant persons will be found to deny the general truth of physiognomy as an exponent of the intellectual powers, and moral character, but Mr. Turner's extensive experience, led him to hold views of a far more practical character upon this subject than are usually entertained. Where strong resemblance existed, he maintained that the same mental, moral, and physical constitution, would, in almost every case, be found also to exist, and many of his conclusions, as a medical man,



were influenced, and greatly strengthened by his convictions upon this point, directing him in some cases to recommend caution, so that hereditary tendencies might be repressed; and enabling him in others, to speak with encouragement, where a striking likeness to a healthy parent led him to entertain the belief, that a sound constitution had been inherited by the child.

Mr. Turner's naturally buoyant spirits, and ardent love of his profession, enabled him to endure all the fatigue which it involved, with the utmost cheerfulness. The following incident (trifling though it is) will illustrate this; and (remembering how greatly the happiness of life depends upon our behaviour in *little* things) is not unimportant in the lesson which it conveys.

It has been previously stated that during the summer months Mr. Turner resided with his family in the outskirts of Manchester, daily going into town for the discharge of his professional duties; and it was often late in the evening before he returned to his country-house. Upon one occasion, after an unusually busy day, he did not rejoin his family until between nine and ten at night, and, thoroughly worn out, sank down upon a sofa and almost immediately dropped asleep, when there came a ring at the door-bell, and a note was brought in. It was to summon Mr. Turner to an urgent case, and involved his driving to a considerable distance. A favourite cat, which had been unusually petted in the family, had jumped upon her master's coat and lay asleep beside him. Having read the note, and decided, without a word of complaint, that he must go, Mr. Turner, who was very fond of animals, glanced down upon the cat and added, 'Poor pussey! I must disturb you.' A lady who was present remarked, 'I do not think I ever admired Mr. Turner so much, and I shall never forget it. He had not a murmuring word for himself, but he could think of the poor dumb animal.' No doubt this characteristic cheerfulness, and uncomplaining discharge of duty, brought with it its own reward; and perhaps his long life of happy usefulness depended more upon his possession of these qualities—raising him, as they did, so largely above the ordinary



frets of every-day life—than he himself was aware of, or than others have in any true measure realised.

The following beautiful remarks from Mr. Turner's pen, upon the duty of the Christian physician to his dying patient, may fittingly close this chapter, occupied as so many of its pages have been with the record of his sympathising intercourse with those who sought his advice:—

‘The requirements of our profession are not few, or commonplace, and the road to eminence in it is not a short one. It lies in untiring industry and perseverance, in the cultivation of the judgment, in unflinching integrity of purpose, in strict morality, based on the culture of the heart and the affections, involving the sacred inculcation of loving our neighbour as ourselves, of doing good unto all men, of sympathising with the afflictions of others, and with Samaritan-like beneficence, contributing as much as in us lies to their relief; and finally, as Christian medical men, we are not to regard the body as the sole object of our solicitude, but to speak a word in season when the immortal part, which is associated with the dying animal fabric, is threatened ejection from its earthly tenement, and thus add our feeble efforts towards turning the ear to listen, and raising the suppliant's voice, to Him in whose hands are life and death.

‘Some of you may think that *this*, the highest of all purposes, belongs exclusively to the members of another profession. It must be conceded that the higher offices are theirs, but the *awakening* often belongs to us. The late Dr. Burder, a physician as eminent for his piety as for his professional attainments, committed to paper three letters on the duties of the medical man to his dying patients, and these he has left as a legacy to his professional brethren. They were originally addressed to my valued friend Dr. Henry Hope, well known for his works on diseases of the heart and large vessels, but quite as well known in a smaller circle of the community for his consistency as a Christian, a scrupulous observance of every religious duty being one of the strongest traits in his character.

‘But Burder and Hope are not the only examples



held up for our emulation in this respect ; I could enumerate a host of dead and living members of our profession quite as worthy of imitation ; and instead of scepticism being, as it once was, the opprobrium of our profession, many of the modern most valuable text-books are written by men who hold decided views on religious duties, and the sacred responsibilities of medical men.'



## CHAPTER XVII.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE—SANITARY ASSOCIATION INAUGURAL ADDRESS IN 1872—FAILING HEALTH—LETTERS—LAST COURSE OF LECTURES—TEMPORARY RALLYING—PRESIDES AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SANITARY ASSOCIATION—DR. CRACE CALVERT—HEALTH FAILS AGAIN—OPENING OF THE OWENS COLLEGE BUILDINGS—ACQUIESCENCE IN GOD'S WILL—PATIENT ENDURANCE—LAST SAYINGS—PEACEFUL DEPARTURE.

A FEW more letters addressed by Mr. Turner to members of his own family during the summer and winter of 1872 and 1873 will be given, previous to entering upon the particulars of his last illness.

On May 26 Mr. Turner thus alludes to the death of an old and valued friend in Manchester, in a note written to his youngest daughter:—

‘ 77 Mosley Street, Manchester: May 26.

‘ My darling Kitty,—You will be grieved to receive the enclosed, announcing the death of dear Mr. Callender.<sup>1</sup> Lucy's letter was delivered last evening; and finding it was a mourning envelope, I thought it best to open it. I have written Lucy and told her you were from home, and that I would forward it to you. I shall send cards of enquiry to Mrs. Callender and the rest of the family.

‘ . . . . . Poor Mrs. C.! I am very sorry for her.

‘ The weather is now finer, so that I hope you will begin to benefit by it. Manchester has been in a great holiday bustle all the week, but to-day is quiet. Believe me, darling Kate,

‘ Ever affectionately yours,

‘ THO. TURNER.’

<sup>1</sup> Father of the present Member for Manchester.



And on June 15 he again writes:—

‘ Mosley Street : June 15, 1872.

‘ My darling Kitty,—We have not much news to communicate, for Manchester is where it was and as it was.

‘ I have been to London again, as we are preparing for our annual meeting on the 4th of July, which will soon be at hand. . . . .

‘ You will have heard of poor Dr. Walker<sup>1</sup> and his son. The suddenness of the death of the latter was very calamitous, but it was discovered after death that he could not have lived long had not pleurisy taken him off. Poor Beever is passing away, and is not expected to live many days.

‘ The weather seems now to be changing. I hope it is fine with you, and that you are feeling much better. With much love, believe me, darling K,

‘ Ever affectionately yours,

‘ T. T.’

The loss of another valued friend is mentioned in the letter following:—

‘ Mosley Street : July 1, 1872.

‘ My darling Kate,—We have arrived, you see, at the last summer month without having as yet entered on true summer weather! This is an anomaly which we must very much regret, especially on account of the fruits of the season, and now the prospect of the harvest is endangered in an alarming degree; happily, however, rain and hail and tempest are not everywhere at the same time, so there must be summer weather somewhere from which to derive the fruits that other places cannot yield.

‘ I suppose Edmund and Harriette have left you. The former wrote me a good account of you and your locality.

‘ Poor Beever was interred at Prestwich yesterday.<sup>2</sup> Did you hear of the death of poor Mrs. Horrocks, of Grange? And now I have to tell you of another trial—it

<sup>1</sup> The late Rev. Dr. Walker, of Cheltenham.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Beever, the well-known surgeon in Manchester.



is no less than the sudden death, at Brighton, of dear Mrs. Worsley,<sup>1</sup> from disease of the heart. The body was brought home yesterday, and is to be interred, I believe, on Tuesday or Wednesday. It is very sad!

‘I have received happy accounts of the health of Emma from Quatford. Walsey<sup>2</sup> returned well, and spent the night with us. Hoping you are improving, believe me, my darling,

‘Ever affectionately yours,

‘T. T.’

Shortly after the inaugural address delivered by Mr. Turner upon the occasion of the union of the Royal School of Medicine with the Owens College, the winter session of the Manchester and Salford Sanitary Association opened; and it was arranged that the introductory lecture should be delivered, as usual, by Mr. Turner, the Bishop of Manchester being invited to occupy the chair. It has been previously mentioned that Mr. Turner's health had become more uncertain than formerly, and upon the Monday preceding the delivery of this lecture, which had been advertised for the Thursday, he was taken suddenly very ill, at about six o'clock in the evening, just at the conclusion of his afternoon consultations.

‘My dear father suffered greatly that evening,’ Miss Turner writes, ‘for, notwithstanding the application of all the usual remedies, the terrible difficulty of breathing still went on until more than two hours had elapsed. Then, with the deepest thankfulness, I saw that the attack was subsiding, and shortly afterwards he fell asleep in an easy-chair. He was thoroughly exhausted, and slept for about two hours, when he ventured to ascend the stairs very slowly from his study to his own room. This exertion, however, threatened for some minutes to bring on renewed suffering, and upon the following day, and also on the Wednesday, such laboured breathing was the result of even the slightest effort, that he did not attempt to leave his room. As the Thursday drew near, I entreated him to ask some medical or other friend to deliver the Sanitary inaugural address, but unavailingly.

‘Remaining quiet, he believed that he would have the

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Carill Worsley, of Platt Hall.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Turner's grandson.



power to give it; his name had been announced, and his resolution to make the required effort could not be shaken. He held several consultations upon the afternoon of this day, and bore the fatigue better than I had thought possible, but it was with extreme apprehension that I looked forward to the evening meeting.

‘ The address was to be delivered in the Chorlton Town Hall, and a flight of steps led from the Committee-room in which the gentlemen assembled, to the large room, where the audience were waiting, and by the time that my dear father had ascended these, the attack of spasmodic breathing had set in.

‘ His Lordship enquired, “How long shall I speak in order to give the people time to assemble?” and my father named a quarter of an hour, hoping that this would give him time to recover from the attack. The Bishop finished speaking, and my father rose. His unusual pallor, and the low tone of voice in which he commenced his address, were noticed by those to whom his general appearance and mode of delivery were familiar, and “The Doctor’s ill,” was whispered from one to another. For ten minutes or a quarter of an hour it was a fight for breath, but my dear father’s intense energy of character and strength of will bore him through, and he spoke for upwards of an hour.

‘ Upon his arrival at home, when all was over, he rested for a while in his study, and then ascended the stairs to his own room. I went to him, and seated myself by his side, not venturing to say anything, aware of the exertion which he had made, and that it was desirable for him then to keep as quiet as possible. But he spoke first. “Well, my dear,” he said, “I have managed it; not as I should like to have delivered the lecture, but I have done my duty.”<sup>1</sup> And in this conviction he rested, and by it he was satisfied. No expressions of mortified vanity passed his lips because he had been unable from illness to lecture as effectively as he otherwise could have done. God had arranged everything, and it was enough for him that all had been ordered according to His will.’

<sup>1</sup> ‘ His sense of duty—’ a friend once remarked, who knew Mr. Turner well, ‘was among his striking qualities.’



Shortly after this occurrence, Mr. Turner rallied wonderfully in health, and fulfilled all his customary professional duties during the winter months with his usual vigour, being often called away by train to cases of danger and intricacy at a distance, and sometimes leaving home very early in the morning in order to return in time for his afternoon consultations.

The following letter of Christmas greeting was addressed to Mrs. Halstead, who was now residing in Shropshire, at the conclusion of this year:—

‘Mosley Street: December 26, 1872.

‘My darling Emma,—I have not much time, but I do not like the day to pass away without acknowledging your affectionate letter concerning the happy Christmas-day. I do most seriously and religiously reciprocate all your and dear Herbert’s good wishes on the hopes and prospects of the forthcoming year. It is a great blessing, which we must all feel on the threshold of a new year, that darling Kate is better, and our prayer must be for the continuance and increase of her health.

‘What you say about dear Mr. Halstead’s health I am sorry for, but not surprised at.

‘With much love to all, ever, my Emma,

‘Yours affectionately,

‘T. T.’

And again, on January 1, 1873, he wrote:—

‘Mosley Street: January 1, 1873.

‘My darling Emma,—I have received your substantial New Year’s gift to-day. I reciprocate in prayers and good wishes to you and yours. Darling Kate has been to the prayer-meeting to-day.

‘God bless you and yours.

‘Yours affectionately,

‘T. T.’

It has been mentioned that Mr. Turner was in the habit of delivering a course of lectures annually at the



Royal Institution, as Honorary Professor of Physiology, and that he not unfrequently gave a united course with Dr. Crace Calvert, the Honorary Professor of Chemistry. This was the case in the year 1873, and the lectures commenced on Feb. 17th. "Life, Organisation, and Death," was the title of this course, which consisted of six lectures; three being arranged to be delivered by Mr. Turner, and three by Dr. Calvert. Just about this time Mr. Turner caught a very severe cold in one of his early morning journeys by rail, which ended in an attack of bronchitis, and it was with much risk to his own health, that he ultimately accomplished the delivery of the lectures, one having unavoidably to be postponed for a few days. This was his last course.

A conviction that his days were numbered appears to have presented itself to Mr. Turner's mind during his illness, for it was at this time that he selected the text, 'We have hope in Christ' (1 Cor. xv. 19), as the one he wished to be engraved on his tombstone. He had at first desired that the words 'My hope is in Christ,' should be so applied, but finally relinquished them, preferring that the exact language of Scripture should be employed.

When only partially recovered, his professional engagements were resumed as usual, but for some weeks he was far from being really equal to the exertion which they involved: his natural vigour of constitution, however, again reasserted itself, and in the month of May he appeared to have very much regained his usual state of health; and on Thursday, June 25, he presided, for the last time, at the annual meeting of the Sanitary Association, which was held at the Royal Institution.

On June 21 Mr. Turner wrote to his daughter, Mrs. Halstead, as follows:—

' Mosley Street: June 21, 1873.

' Darling Emma,—The longest day, and yet no summer weather till within the last few days. It was hot yesterday, and so it is to-day, but still not like mid-summer. I am glad to hear that you think darling Kate better: everybody thinks her much better. . . . I trust the visit to you will do her great good.



‘ Manchester is on the eve of great excitement, as the Shah is visiting us next week. We have notice, therefore, from the authorities to give him a hearty welcome; and I, being amongst the loyal, must not be behind others.

‘ I hope dear Herbert and the children are well. I hear occasionally from Stockport, and now and then from Tom. All are well, thank God, and I am glad you are the same. With much love, believe me, darling Emma,

‘ Ever affectionately yours,

‘ T. T.’

And on July 17 the following letter was addressed by Mr. Turner to his youngest daughter, who was staying at Pensarn, near Abergele, for her health :—

‘ Mosley Street : July 17, 1873.

‘ Darling Kate,—I am glad to hear that you have safely arrived at Pensarn, which seems by everybody to be represented as a nice locality. You seem to be fixed also in comfortable lodgings. I fear, however, during the children’s holiday season, which is now at hand, that the place will be crowded, and therefore not as quiet as I should desire. At present I cannot leave home, therefore do not think of forming any plans; but I should like in my rambles to see what sort of a place Pensarn is, for I have thought it probable that a little blowing from the mild sea-air might brace me.

‘ Mrs. Lee (the late Bishop’s lady) has been here. She enquired very kindly after you and Emma, and expressed a strong wish that, should any of us go to Birmingham, we would visit her, promising us a hearty welcome if we would come. I called to see her at Lady Fairbairn’s yesterday.

‘ Edmund and Harriette dined with me on Tuesday. Dear H.’s mother is better. With much love, ever, darling K.,

‘ Affectionately yours,

‘ T. T.’

Urgent professional engagements, however, hindered



this proposed visit, and amongst these must be noticed Mr. Turner's medical attendance upon the late lamented Dr. Crace Calvert, who had returned from the Continent in a most precarious state of health, and was then labouring under typhoid fever.

Mr. Turner thus alludes to his severe illness in the following letter to Mrs. Halstead :—

‘77 Mosley Street : August 19, 1873.

‘ Darling Emma,—I am glad you and yours are so safely and pleasantly housed at Ramsay. It is a pretty, quiet little place—very superior, I think, to Douglas.

‘ I hope you will have fine weather, for the island is a miserable place when it is rainy and stormy.

‘ Darling Kate seems from everybody's account to be quite herself again. She is returning home on Wednesday, the 27th instant. Poor Dr. Calvert has brought with him from Germany typhoid fever, but he is now in his fourth week, and convalescent. I was alarmed by his symptoms at one time, but, like our Prince, he sustained his points, and is now progressing favourably.

‘ With much love to all, believe me

‘ Ever affectionately yours,

‘ T. T.’

Dr. Crace Calvert was a very much younger man than Mr. Turner, but an intimacy had existed between them during a period exceeding five-and-twenty years, and there was much in the natural character and tastes possessed by each to draw them together. Both were gifted with an unusual amount of intellectual and physical energy; both were ardent lovers of science; both were high-minded in the objects which they proposed, and then pursued them with indefatigable industry; and both possessed the same vivacious and warm-hearted temperament.

It was with the deepest anxiety that Mr. Turner watched his friend's case; and upon his daughter's return from Pensarn his efforts had been so far successful that he spoke to her hopefully of Dr. Calvert's recovery, as in his previous letter to Mrs. Halstead, and trusted that he would



soon be strong enough to travel, and that a judicious change of air and scene would be of service in bringing about his complete restoration. Miss Turner was struck, however, by her father's own altered appearance; he looked thin and pale, and she felt disturbed upon his account, though he did not complain, and was pursuing his professional duties as usual. As soon as he was released from his attendance upon Dr. Calvert he promised that he would leave home for a little rest, but this intention never was carried out, for his patient continued to linger much in the same state for many weeks, so that he was unable to secure the desired change. Slowly but surely Mr. Turner's strength was also sinking, though no pain was experienced, and no complaint made.

For some time the severe attacks of difficulty of breathing from which Mr. Turner had occasionally suffered had led the members of his family to fear that his heart might be affected, but they had been reassured by medical opinion that no disease existed, though, as the heart of an old man, its action was sometimes feeble. With the increasing weakness, which was now unmistakably setting in, this distressing affection of breathing also returned, and towards the middle of September he was compelled to relinquish his professional duties and remain for a few days quietly in his own room. After this temporary rest he again rallied sufficiently to hold his afternoon medical consultations for several successive days, the last upon which he was so occupied being Friday, September 26, upon which evening he entered his own room, and upon one occasion only afterwards left it. His nephew, Mr. William Smith,<sup>1</sup> had been attending him during the time

<sup>1</sup> Since these pages were composed, the very sudden and widely-lamented death of Mr. Smith has taken place. He breathed his last on Feb. 10, 1875. His talents as a lecturer were of a very high order, and as one of the medical Professors at the Owens College his loss has been deeply felt. Mr. Smith had a very extensive practice, and was greatly beloved and respected in a large circle of friends, as well as by those whom he attended professionally. He was regarded by the members of Mr. Turner's family as a brother, and mourned as such, and they will ever gratefully cherish the memory of his devoted attention to their dear father, and affectionate sympathy with themselves, in all the anxiety and sorrow of the period recorded in this chapter.



in the previous week in which he had been laid aside, and came in on Sunday, September 28th. Mr. Turner mentioned to Mr. Smith his desire to see his old friend Sir James Bardsley, and a note was sent to inform the latter of Mr. Turner's illness.

Symptoms of increasing gravity manifested themselves during this week, and on Friday, October 3, there was a medical consultation, which ended in the expression of the opinion that although the case might prove to be a lingering one, ultimate recovery was hopeless. From the day that Mr. Turner became a prisoner in his own room he appeared to form a decisive judgment upon his own case, and did not conceal from those around him what that judgment was.

“On Sunday, September 28,’ his youngest daughter writes, ‘as I sat by my dearest father’s side, he said to me, “The prayer I offer for myself, and which I wish you to offer for me is, that, for what is left to me of life, I may live more for God. I have been a very ambitious man. I have sought to be distinguished in my profession, and to excel. These things were not wrong, but they should not be all our life. I have lived for the world, and done nothing for God; but Christ does everything.”’

From this period, Mr. Turner's mind appeared to be very much occupied by Scripture, and he often uttered his meditations aloud, as if too absorbed with his own reflections to notice the presence of those around him. Much, however, he also addressed to the members of his own family, and a record of these last thoughts, as from time to time he expressed them, was kept by his daughters. It is from this record the following extracts are made:—

‘*September 29* (speaking low to himself, so that I could not catch everything, but heard distinctly): “Believeth in Him,” and feel sure it was John iii. 16. Afterwards I thought I caught the words, “I will believe,” and then followed the text, every word clear: “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us, but if we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”



‘September 30: “I am done, but if it were to please God not to prolong my life beyond this day, I feel He has dealt very graciously with me in permitting me to live so long.”’

‘The following earnest longing,’ Miss Turner writes, ‘was drawn forth by my beloved father’s sufferings in consequence of a severe attack of difficulty of breathing :

‘October 1.—“God grant me a speedy passage to Christ. God grant me a speedy passage to Christ.” And then, in a low tone, speaking to himself, “Whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life.”

‘And again, alluding to his endurance from this cause, he said :—

‘October 2.—“But my sufferings are nothing to Christ’s.” The remark was made, “How Jesus must have loved us to bear it all!” He answered, “Wonderful, wonderful!”

‘October 4.—“My religion is very simple—Christ and the Bible. I have tried to do my duty to God and man.”

‘The remark was made, “And I think you have done it.” “No,” he replied, “I have failed in my duty to God. I have done nothing for God. I have nothing to offer, but Christ has done everything.”

‘The answer was made, “What a blessing it is that our salvation does not depend upon our own good works, but that Jesus has died for us, and that all we have to do is to accept Him.” “It is a blessing,” he replied, “and this is my comfort more and more every day—Jesus has died for guilty man. Redemption is wonderful, wonderful!”

“It is *very* simple; I thought it *too* simple once; it seemed to me *scarcely just*; but I see it differently now.”

‘October 5.—He said, “I wish you all to pray for me, but do not pray too urgently for my recovery. I wish to leave all in the hands of God.”’

On Wednesday, October 8, the opening ceremony took place in connection with the Owens College buildings. ‘I shall never forget my beloved father’s conduct upon this occasion,’ Miss Turner writes. ‘It was most impressive, and a lesson to all around him. The day he had longed to see had come—the day he had looked forward to



for almost half a century; for ever since his establishment of the School of Medicine in Manchester, in 1824, he had earnestly desired to see its continued success and permanence secured by its incorporation with a college. He had, indeed, delivered the inaugural address in the autumn of 1872, upon the amalgamation of the school with the Owens College, but the present occasion was the time when the union effected between the two was to be publicly recognised.

‘At the commencement of his illness my dear father’s naturally sanguine temperament led him (even against his convictions) to entertain the hope that he might rally sufficiently to be a spectator, or even perhaps be strengthened to take a part in the opening proceedings; but as day by day his increasing weakness scattered these fondly cherished hopes, he bore the disappointment with an uncomplaining acceptance of the will of God which drew forth the admiration of all who witnessed it. His face is before me as I now write, with its beautiful expression of inward peace.

‘The hour fixed for the opening meeting was twelve o’clock, and about half an hour previously, my curiosity was excited by an enthusiastic burst of cheering, the cause of which I afterwards ascertained. One or two omnibuses, crowded with medical students, upon their way to the College, had passed my father’s residence, and the occupants were thus testifying their respect and affection for their long-tried friend. They cheered also before my cousin’s consultation rooms, nearly opposite. Upon re-entering the chamber of our dear invalid, I told him what had occurred, and his eyes filled with tears at the feeling thus manifested.

‘As soon as the proceedings were over, Sir James Bardsley and my cousin came in to tell him all the particulars. He listened with the deepest interest, but no regretful expressions as to his own absence from a scene which he would have so rejoiced to witness, and take part in, escaped from him. The triumph of *Christian* over merely *natural* feeling was complete.

‘On October 13, speaking as if to himself, he said, “I know in whom I have believed, and I am very happy.



‘Great is the mystery of godliness.’ I have endeavoured to do my duty, and to serve and benefit my fellow-creatures, and I have succeeded to some extent, and I have been a happy man, but I have never been so happy as I am now, because I was too self-reliant.”

Almost immediately after Mr. Turner was laid aside, very unfavourable accounts of Dr. Calvert’s health were received, and most earnest messages expressive of his desire again to see his kind medical adviser which, of course, could not be gratified. The trial to Mr. Turner was severe, as was also his anxiety respecting his invalid friend’s condition, and many were the enquiries exchanged, the increasing illness of each forbidding the delivery of a reassuring answer at any time upon either side. Evidently Dr. Calvert’s system had been undermined by the fever, and rapid pulmonary disease had set in. Most alarming sinkings of strength also from time to time manifested themselves in Mr. Turner, and for many hours on October 23 he was not expected to rally from the state of unconsciousness and utter prostration into which he had fallen. It seemed as if the summons of death had been received by both, and as if it were doubtful by which it would be first obeyed. Mr. Turner, however, rallied and was spared to his family and friends for many weeks longer. Dr. Calvert breathed his last on Friday, October 24.

We turn again to the record kept by his daughters:—

‘*November 1.*—“‘Ask and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you.’ Christ will never turn away any who come to him for help.”

‘*November 2.*—Said how peaceful he felt, adding that he wished to live with God, and for God.

—‘*November 3.*—“And now let me go to bed. I will lie down in peace, and take my rest, for my God sustaineth me. I never anticipated that I should be such a happy man at the close of my life. I expected to be happy temporally, because I had good children, and plenty of means, but I never expected to have such spiritual life with God. I used to be afraid of God. I used to be afraid of Christ, but I am not afraid now. My faith is in Christ.” —



‘November 4.—“I am very happy—almost too happy, I think. I am wafting onward, onward.”

‘November 9.—Seemed troubled by the thought of sin, and begged us to pray for him. Expressed himself as feeling afraid on account of sin. The text, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness,” was quoted to him, and the remark made that it is not anything *we* have done, but what Christ has done for us, which is our ground of hope. He answered, “You are right: it is not *my* work or *your* work. My hope is in Christ.” The text was then quoted, “Blessed is the man whose hope is in Thee.” Afterwards he spoke of his approaching departure, and said he trusted it would please God to grant him consciousness to the last.

‘The humility with which my dear father regarded his past life,’ Miss Turner writes, ‘devoted though it had been to the good of his fellow-creatures, was very striking. He felt deeply that, blameless and useful though it had been, he had not yielded himself up to the service of God with the complete surrender to which those are called who are redeemed by the precious blood of Christ, and especially, that he had failed in seeking to lead others to know the Lord as he should have done. I shall never forget a touching example of this which occurred on November 12th. There were two volumes of Bible readings, which he desired to present to a young man, hoping that they might be made a blessing to him; and believing that they would be increasingly valued if he wrote a message from himself within the flyleaf, he determined to do so. But his weakness had now become so great that it was only by the most painful effort that this was accomplished. I seem to see him now, as eagerly, but with trembling hand, he traced the successive words, many of which, when penned, were almost illegible.’

‘On November 13th he seemed very peaceful and full of praise. God was so good to him, he said, so tender, and all around him were so kind. He traced every blessing humbly and gratefully up to God.

‘November 15.—“I hope I shall go to my Father to



day," he said; and then at another time, "I am so grateful to God. He has been so good to me, so loving, gentle, kind, generous." Later on in the day he spoke of his own life. The text was quoted, "He that believeth on me hath everlasting life," and the remark made, "You are trusting in Jesus, and He has given you everlasting life, and that is the best kind of life, is it not?" "Yes," he replied, "it is the best life. Christ has given us all we need—all we need." He said again, "I have so many kind friends." The remark was made, "And Jesus is our best friend, and He has loved us, and saved us." "You are right," he answered; "what a blessing it is to have such a friend!" "Christ is an unchangeable friend—the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever."

'November 16.—"To-day is the Lord's day," he said, "and I should like to begin it with prayer. I want you all to pray for me. I never felt before that I had so given my heart to God, but pray that I may be kept aright with Him." The assurance of remembrance in prayer was given, and shortly afterwards he said, "I will pray," and the following prayer was uttered:—

"Oh, almighty and everlasting God, how shall I open prayer and supplication with so divine a Judge, who knows the soul, and can as with a needle's point mark every sin and show how sinful we are? But oh, merciful Father, we could not escape if Thou did'st not relax. We have no power in ourselves to do anything; but Christ and Christ alone is our help; Christ and Christ alone is our hope, Christ and Christ alone is our sufficiency. . . . . Oh, God, let me ask all I need. Forgive all my sins, all my shortcomings, all my hypocrisies. Be with me this day in my prayers, in my meditations, in my thoughts and words, and if it be Thy will let me have a little repose, so that in silence I may thank Thee for all Thy goodness to me. May the peace of God," &c.

'Speaking of his blessings, "It is impossible," he said, that anyone could have greater blessings than I have. *Nothing* is withheld from me. I have *everything*. Christ is mine, and I am Christ's; but it makes me ashamed to



feel that I should have lived all my past life with so little evidence of prayer and praise, until now, at the fag-end of my life.”

‘At one part of our dearest father’s illness,’ one of Mr. Turner’s daughters writes, ‘he was very anxious that his life might be prolonged a little while, in order that he might glorify God, by spending it more entirely to His praise; and requested us to ask that if it was the Lord’s will this desire might be granted.’ The prolonged character of his illness often formed, consequently, a theme of thanksgiving with him. The following passage is an illustration of this:—

— ‘November 17.—“I have neglected my God,” he said; and then shortly afterwards, ‘I thank Thee, oh God, my mighty Father, Thou art slow in taking away from me my life of happiness, my life of success, and in substituting for it a life of glory.”’

From this period, however, a change in his feelings took place, and he continually gave utterance to an earnest desire to enter upon his eternal rest.

‘November 18.—He said, “I long to be with Christ; I long to be with Christ.”’

The texts had been quoted, “Without shedding of blood there is no remission,” and “The soul that sinneth, it shall die.” “Yes,” he said, “and how is it, then, that I have escaped? It is through the blood of Christ; it is because *Christ has saved me*. I have accepted the death of Christ. All my peace is through the death of Christ—*all my peace*.”

‘November 19.—“It has been said ‘A thousand pounds for an hour of time.’ I would not give a farthing for an hour of time. If God is with me I have nothing to fear, and *He is with me*. I am ready—yes, more than ready, *willing*, and only waiting for my God to make the demand. I have had such a glorious night. I have been speaking to Christ, and Christ has been speaking to me. If I had any trouble now I should tell Jesus about it, for has He not said, “Come unto me all ye that are weary, and heavy laden, and I will give you rest?”’

It has been remarked how exemplary Mr. Turner



was in the prompt conveyance of his sympathy with the bereaved, and often were expressions of condolence penned by him during his illness, and dictated when he could no longer write. The last of these notes was addressed by him to Mrs. Deane, upon the occasion of the death of her brother, Sir Henry Holland, Bart., with whose family Mr. Turner had enjoyed much pleasant intercourse in the past, and was dictated with very great difficulty, from his now rapidly increasing illness. Through the goodness of God, however, he was spared acute suffering, though he was much tried by weakness and weariness. It seemed mercifully ordered that comparatively little pain should be permitted to fall to the lot of one whose entire life had been spent in the alleviation of human suffering.

On Nov. 20 he said, 'I wish you were all as happy as I am this morning. *I have not now to learn in whom I have believed.* I believe in God, I believe in Christ, my Lord; the only 'hope of glory,' Christ, *my* hope of glory. Thank the Lord, I have no pain, thank the Lord. He is so kind to me. I am in the hands of a merciful God. Christ is God. I have no suffering, no trouble, no anxiety. He has borne everything for me. He has borne my sins. He has borne my sorrows. I wish all were as happy as I am.'

'Nov. 21.—"I am sheltered under the wing of Christ," he said; but shortly afterwards a dark cloud appeared to arise in his mind. He dreaded whether his expressions of faith and hope were genuine, and seemed almost inclined to accuse himself of hypocrisy. "Will my God forsake me?" he enquired. "No," the reply was given. "He will never leave you nor forsake you. You are not looking to anything good you have done for salvation?" He shook his head expressively. "Christ has done everything. He has died for sinners, and His perfect work is accepted before God. His blood 'cleanseth from all sin,' and you are trusting in Jesus?" He answered, "*Entirely.*"

Earlier in the day he spoke of his love to Christ and to the members of his own family.

As the evening approached his nephew (Mr. Smith), who kindly visited his uncle twice and sometimes three



times a day, came in to see him previous to going off by rail to a consultation case. This led Mr. Turner to speak of the excessive occupation of some medical men, and the disadvantages arising from this cause (a subject upon which he had often spoken in reference to himself), expressing the deepest thankfulness for the leisure which his prolonged illness had afforded.

‘They may have *too much* to do,’ he said; ‘it leaves no time to think of God. It used to be *my* delight *once*, but *now* I would rather have a quiet hour. I would rather be in my peaceful home, and have quiet time in which to try to serve God in another way.’

Again, on Nov. 22 he anticipated the approach of the Sunday with pleasure, saying, ‘It is my Lord’s day; it is my Lord’s day.’

In the evening Mr. Turner received a pastoral visit from the Rev. W. Robinson, of St. Clement’s, of whose congregation he was a member, and who was most kind and attentive in his ministrations, during this time of sickness. The subject of the conversation was Malachi iii. 3, and during the course of it Mr. Turner spoke upon the process of the refining of silver, with a precision and power which was most astonishing from one so reduced by illness as he then was.

His kind medical attendants, Sir James Bardsley, and Mr. Smith, were unremitting in their attentions, and Mr. Turner’s gratitude to them was very great. He often contrasted his own lot with that of others and expressed his deep thankfulness to God for His many mercies.

It has been already mentioned that Mr. Turner’s eldest son had entered the army. His regiment was at this time stationed in the Isle of Wight, and he was able, therefore, to obtain leave of absence, so as to assist his brother and sisters in daily ministering to their beloved father’s wants—a privilege which they will ever look back upon as a truly precious one. His presence was a very great comfort to Mr. Turner, and to the entire family circle; and that all his children were thus able to be assembled around him, was an especial subject of praise to God with their father.

Another occasion for thanksgiving was felt to be the



presence in his sick-room of a valued servant, who was peculiarly gifted as a nurse, and whose attachment to every member of the family, and especially to her master, was very great.

‘I cannot describe the comfort dear Ann Henshall was to us during my dearest father’s illness,’ Miss Turner writes. ‘She had lived with us for thirty-three years, and her good sense, right feeling, quiet, respectful ways, and thoughtful affection, rendered her services invaluable. She had come to us at the age of nineteen; had never lived as servant in any family but our own; and her life’s work appeared to be ended with our beloved father’s days. Her health visibly failed before the conclusion of his illness, but we trusted that perfect rest and the pure air of the country would restore her. Such was not, however, the will of God, and she passed away to her own eternal rest on September 7, 1874.’

We return again to the diary:—

‘Nov. 23.—Spoke to his children about leaving them, and said, “I want to be with God, and I want to be with you.” The remark was made that the two feelings were not inconsistent. “No,” he answered, “I love God, and I love you all dearly.” “I leave you all in the hands of God—my Father and your Father, my God and your God.”

‘Shortly afterwards he said in prayer, “Dear Father, I desire to go to be with Thee. I want Christ to be ‘all in all’ to me. I, nothing. Christ is Thy power to forgive sin.’ And then addressing his family: ‘I believe so thoroughly in my God, and your God, my Christ, and your Christ, that I should not have the shadow of a doubt if it were to please God to say to me at this moment, ‘Come, my child.’”

‘At another time he said, “Oh, God, forgive all my sins.” The remark was made, “They are forgiven for Jesus Christ’s sake.” “Yes,” he replied, “I hope they are *all* forgiven for Christ’s sake. My views are much more comfortable and settled upon this point than they were.” “God Himself has been teaching you in this illness.” “Yes,” he replied; and then raising his eyes to heaven, with the most beautiful expression of adoring faith and love, he said, “Oh, my Father, my Father, look down in mercy upon me!”’



An interval occurred after this date during which, from increasing illness, little comparatively was said which could be put down.

The longing to depart now became almost painfully great, though Mr. Turner was still willing to accept the will of God, whatever that will might be; but as his alarming weakness led him again and again to hope that he was about to be called away, and he found that his Heavenly Father's time had not yet arrived, a feeling of disappointment would at times become evident.

'My darling,' he said to his youngest daughter one day, 'I cannot—I cannot,' and here he paused. 'What cannot you do, dearest papa?' she asked. 'I cannot die,' he rejoined.

From this time the opportunities for connected conversation became fewer, in consequence of Mr. Turner's increasing weakness. The feeble action of the heart caused also an insufficient supply of blood to the brain, and the result was frequent wandering of mind; but it was a source of the deepest thankfulness to his family that no painful impression which might present itself to his thoughts effected an abiding lodgment there, and that usually any delusion which might arise, appeared to be of a natural and a happy kind. He continually imagined at these times that he was engaged in holding consultations; would feel the pulse of one of his daughters, ask her how she had slept, and other simple medical questions; and then, holding out his hand to wish her good morning, would extend the other in order to ring the bell; and when he found he could not reach it, apologise to her for his inability. These scenes were often deeply touching, but they conveyed the impression that he felt happy, and presented, therefore, ground for thankfulness.

'Dec. 5.—"I should like to have a little prayer," he said to one of his family. "And I will pray. Should you like it?" "I should indeed," the reply was made; and he then commenced: "Oh, dearly beloved Jesus, and my precious——" But here his head dropped in that oppressive drowsiness which was one of the features of his illness at this time.



‘Dec. 7.—One of his family spoke to him of heaven, and how blessed it would be to see Jesus. He answered, “How beautiful!” The remainder of the sentence could not be distinctly heard, but it seemed to be either “How glorious!” or “to be in glory.”’

‘At another time the question was asked, “Who has given you peace?” He answered, “Jesus.” The text being quoted to him when he was very ill, “Christ in you, the hope of glory,” he answered, “Yes, yes.”’

‘Dec. 9.—Speaking to himself: “*An eternity*” . . . .  
“*Jesus.*” The rest was lost.

‘Dec. 10.—A member of his family asked if he would like a short prayer to Jesus. He raised his head and replied with energy, “Do you know of whom I am going to speak to you? It is of Christ, the most beautiful of all beings.” And he continued for a moment or two to speak in the same strain of rapture, though all he said could not be distinctly heard.

‘Dec. 13.—Called for paper, and tried to write a prescription, but vainly; again attempted, but still without success—a third time, but the hand which had penned so many thousands, refused now to act and fell powerless.

‘Dec. 14.—One of his daughters being in the room, he gently murmured, “You have no idea, my darling, of my peace and joy sometimes.”’

This was the more impressive, because his sufferings at this time from weakness, weariness, and difficulty of breathing, were often so very great.

At another time, ‘I hope, my darling,’ he said to one of his daughters, ‘there is happiness yet in store for us.’ ‘Yes, papa,’ she answered, ‘there is happiness in heaven for all who trust in Jesus; and Christ is *yours*, and you are *His*, are you not?’ ‘And *shall be for ever*,’ he rejoined.

‘Dec. 15.—Prayer was suggested, to which he eagerly assented, and in the afternoon was heard distinctly to say, as if speaking to himself in meditation, “I love my Saviour, *I love my Saviour.*”’

These may be said to be the last words Mr. Turner uttered. A heavy sleep now set in, from which he could



be, indeed, aroused for a moment, but into which he immediately relapsed. This continued during the whole of the next morning, and at about two o'clock in the afternoon it was found impossible to give him any nourishment or stimulant, in even the smallest quantity. The solemn time had arrived, so well remembered by all who have watched beside their beloved dying ones, when, excepting to pray for them, all that affection can execute is to *watch*. The deep and peaceful slumber continued uninterruptedly, and as the evening drew on the servants came in one by one to take the hand of their dying master and wish him farewell. At last the old butler, advanced in age, though he had only lived with Mr. Turner between six and seven years, entered and knelt beside him. 'Good bye, my dear master,' he said, 'good bye;' and then exclaiming, 'Oh, I can't bear it!' burst into tears and left the room.

Midnight passed, and shortly after two in the morning it was evident to all his assembled children that the time of departure, so long desired by their dear sufferer, had arrived. Very gently, but with longer and yet longer intervals, breath after breath was drawn, and as a child might have fallen asleep on its mother's breast, so peacefully he went to be 'for ever with the Lord,' and rested from his 'labours,' in his eighty-first year.

This was on Wednesday, December 17, 1873.

About two hours afterwards the members of his family re-entered the apartment where lay all that was left to them of their beloved father. The form, rendered slender through protracted illness, the noble, unwrinkled brow, and calm, peaceful face, seemed to belong to a man of forty, rather than to one of his advanced age. It was an illustration of Lavater's beautiful thought in reference to the faces of the dying and of the dead: that, created as man originally was in 'the image of God,' a 'divine primitive physiognomy' is still possessed by him, which may be regarded as usually 'submerged in life by the flux and reflux of events and passions, but which has a tendency gradually to re-establish itself in the calm of death, as muddy water works itself clear when it is no longer stirred.'



Such a 'divine primitive physiognomy' appeared, indeed, to be imprinted upon that face, but the expression of perfect peace which pervaded it surely spoke to all those who beheld it upon a yet sublimer theme—not alone of man as formed in the 'image of God,' but of man as the subject of a new creation, through faith in Christ, and made a partaker therefore in Him of that deathless life for which our existence upon earth is destined to prepare us,



## CHAPTER XVIII.

THE CHURCH AND VILLAGE OF MARTON—MR. TURNER'S FUNERAL—  
GENERAL FEELING—VOTES OF CONDOLENCE AND LETTERS—  
CONCLUSION.

THE parish of Marton is situated at a distance of about six miles from the market-town of Skipton-in-Craven, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, and contains only between two and three hundred souls. The little church, a simple limestone edifice, is prettily situated at the foot of a steep hill, and below it the ground slopes again to the side of the canal, which winds through a peaceful valley. Standing upon its banks, and looking towards the north, this little grey tower peeps out from surrounding trees; but the village, though close at hand, is concealed from view by the steep hill previously mentioned.

The date of the church is unknown, but it was last rebuilt in the year 1769, and there is evidence to show that so far back as the twelfth century a church stood upon this site. An avenue of trees runs along the entire length of the churchyard on one side, and, passing down beneath their sheltering branches to the meadows below, the attention of the visitor is attracted towards a rising ground on the right hand, upon which eminence the manor-house, belonging to the Marton family, once stood.

Many farms are scattered throughout the parish, but the peasantry are principally assembled in two villages, respectively bearing the names of East and West Marton. Almost all the property in this neighbourhood belongs to William Roundell, Esq., of Gledstone (cousin to Lord Selborne), who is lord of the manor; but in earlier times the estate was chiefly owned by the Heber family.



The old residence, Marton Hall, still remains, but is now inhabited as a farmhouse, and a great part of the original building has been pulled down.

The father of the late revered Bishop of Calcutta, also bearing the name of Reginald, was rector of the parish of Marton at the close of the last century and the beginning of the present, as a marble tablet which is erected to his memory in the church bears evidence, and in this quiet burying-ground many successive generations of the Heber family have been laid to rest.

To this peaceful churchyard, where the stranger may sit for hours and hear no sound but the bleating of the sheep in the meadows below, the singing of the birds, or the shivering of the leaves as the wind fitfully passes through them, the honoured remains of him whose life we have been recording were borne on Monday, December 22, 1873.

In accordance with his own strongly-expressed wishes the funeral was strictly private, but it was with difficulty that this privacy was maintained. No sooner had the intelligence of his removal from their midst spread through Manchester, than the desire was expressed upon all sides, that the opportunity might be afforded to the public generally for the manifestation of their sorrow and their respect. Letters were addressed to the executors requesting to know the time and other particulars, and similar enquiries were published in the newspapers; so that it was found necessary finally to satisfy the anxiety which was manifested, by announcing in the public journals in Manchester that the funeral would be a private one, in obedience to Mr. Turner's express injunctions. Public feeling, however, could not be altogether repressed, and the request of the medical staff of the Infirmary that their carriages might be permitted to accompany the funeral procession from Mr. Turner's residence in Mosley Street to the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Station was acceded to. The carriages of the late Sir William Fairbairn, Bart., Sir James Bardsley, and those of a few other friends also joined the procession; and the Rev. W. Robinson, late incumbent of St. Clement's, accompanied



Mr. Turner's family to Marton to perform the last solemn service.

Votes of condolence from the Royal College of Surgeons of England, from the Manchester Royal Infirmary, and from numerous scientific and philanthropic public bodies, with whom Mr. Turner had been connected, were passed, and addressed to his bereaved family, and countless letters of sympathy poured in upon them.

The following expression of condolence was presented from the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, and was forwarded, with the accompanying notes, to Miss Turner, the first being from the President of the Council:—

‘At a quarterly meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, on the 8th of January, 1874:

‘Resolved unanimously,—That the President be requested to convey to the family of the late Mr. Thomas Turner the sincere condolence of the Council in the great loss they have sustained by his lamented death.

‘T. B. CURLING, President.’

‘Royal College of Surgeons of England, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.: January 16, 1874.

‘Dear Madam,—In conveying to you the accompanying resolution, unanimously adopted by the Council, I gladly avail myself of the opportunity of expressing to you my personal regrets at the great loss you and your family have sustained by the decease of Mr. Turner, who was so recently officially connected with this College, and who attended the meetings of the Council at great personal inconvenience, evincing at all times a deep interest in the welfare of the institution.

‘I am, dear Madam,

‘Yours faithfully,

‘Miss Turner.’

‘T. B. CURLING, President.

‘Royal College of Surgeons of England, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.: January 15, 1874.

‘Dear Madam,—Pray allow me to say how deeply we all sympathise with you in the great loss you have sus-



tained in the death of such a noble sire, and myself of such a dear, good friend.

‘ Believe me,

‘ Your faithful servant,

‘ Miss Turner.’

‘ T. M. STONE.

From the Manchester Royal Infirmary :—

‘ December 29, 1873.

‘ Madam,—I am directed to forward you the following vote of condolence, passed at a meeting of the weekly Board held this day.

‘ I am,

‘ Your obedient servant,

‘ Miss Turner.’

‘ HENRY BROWN, Secretary.

‘ The weekly Board of the Manchester Royal Infirmary desire to record their profound sense of the loss which this institution has sustained by the lamented decease of Thomas Turner, Esq., Consulting Surgeon to this Hospital, whose invaluable services as a surgeon were exercised for the benefit of this charity for the period of a quarter of a century.

‘ In expressing their high appreciation of the advantages formerly derived by this institution from his talents and exertions the Board beg to tender to the family of the late Mr. Turner the assurance of their sincere sympathy and condolence in the bereavement with which it has pleased Providence to visit them.’

The following address was received from the Medical Board of the Royal Infirmary :—

‘ Manchester Royal Infirmary and Dispensary :  
January 15, 1874.

‘ The Medical Board of the Royal Infirmary desire to express to the family of the late Mr. Turner the sincere sympathy they feel with them in their bereavement.

‘ Mr. Turner for upwards of a quarter of a century discharged with singular ability the duties of surgeon to this institution, and his name is still held in kind and affectionate remembrance by many who have been under his care. His earnestness of purpose, his unwearied devotion



to his profession and to the interests of his patients, his kindness of heart, and ever-ready sympathy, have gained for him a widely-spread reputation.

‘The Committee venture to express a hope that in proportion to the depth of sorrow which Mr. Turner’s family must feel for his loss will be their comfort in remembering his distinguished career, the sympathy which all who knew him must feel with them, and in the conviction that his whole life was that of a Christian gentleman.

‘(Signed) M. A. EASON WILKINSON,  
‘Chairman.’

A vote of condolence, passed at a Council meeting of the Owens College, was conveyed to Mr. Turner’s family through the Principal of the College, in the following letter addressed by him to Mr. Turner’s nephew, the late lamented William Smith, Esq., F.R.C.S., one of the Professors of the College :—

‘The Owens College, Manchester : Dec. 19, 1873.

‘Dear Mr. Smith,—At the meeting of the council, held to-day, I was requested to convey to the family of the late Mr. Turner the assurance of the sincere sympathy of the Council on the bereavement they have sustained, and at the same time to express their sense of the very eminent services rendered by Mr. Turner during his long and honourable career to the cause of medical education. We hoped that we might for a time have enjoyed the great advantage of his counsel and experience in the important task of carrying on the great school which owed so much to his energy and fostering care.

‘May its future history correspond to the anticipations which I know he entertained respecting it.

‘I write to you, as I do not exactly know to whom I should address myself. Will you kindly forward my letter to the right hands ?

‘Allow me to add my own personal regrets, and to remain,

‘Very sincerely yours,

‘J. G. GREENWOOD.



‘P.S.—At the same meeting the Treasurer (Mr. Alfred Neild) and I were requested to represent the Council on Monday.<sup>1</sup> We shall find places in the carriage of Dr. Eason Wilkinson.’

‘Manchester Royal School of Medicine and Surgery,  
Jan. 20, 1874.

‘At a special meeting of the Lecturers, held this day, it was unanimously resolved—

‘“ That the Lecturers of this school beg most respectfully to offer to the family of the late Thomas Turner, Esq., the founder of the school, their most sincere sympathy and condolence on the occasion of his lamented decease.

‘“ His constant attention to the duties of his profession during more than half a century, his uniform kindness and liberality, not only to his professional brethren but to all his numerous patients, and more particularly his unwearied labours in the advancement of medical education, can never be forgotten by those who, like his colleagues, possessed the best opportunities of fully estimating them.

‘“ GEORGE SOUTHAM, Chairman.

‘“ R. T. HUNT, Hon. Secretary.”’

This resolution was accompanied by the following note from Mr. Hunt, who was one of the Lecturers, and whose regretted decease has since taken place:—

‘63 Piccadilly: January 22, 1874.

‘My dear Miss Turner,—It has become my duty to communicate to you the enclosed resolution of the Lecturers of the school.

‘In your dear father I have lost the best friend I ever had in the profession.

‘I am, my dear Miss Turner,

‘Yours faithfully,

‘R. T. HUNT.

‘I can hardly bear to write.—R. T. H.’

<sup>1</sup> The day fixed for Mr. Turner’s interment.



‘Manchester Medical Society: February 24, 1874.

‘Madam,—The Committee, on behalf of the members of the Manchester Medical Society, desire to express to the family of the late Mr. Turner the deep sympathy they feel with them upon the loss they have sustained.

‘The Medical Society owed much of its early prosperity to the exertions of Mr. Turner, and during the whole period of his membership derived constant benefit from his co-operation and liberality; and they feel, in common with all who have ever had any acquaintance with Mr. Turner, that in him they have lost a kind and faithful friend.

‘(Signed),

‘JOHN ED. MORGAN, M.D.,  
‘President.’

Votes of condolence were also received from the Royal Institution, the Manchester and Salford Sanitary Association, the Field-Naturalists’ Society, the Manchester Adult Deaf and Dumb Society, and the Committee of the Manchester Schools for the Deaf and Dumb. It is not desirable to present the whole of these to the reader, as they are necessarily very similar in character. We shall, therefore, conclude with the last of them:—

‘Manchester Schools for the Deaf and Dumb, Old Trafford,  
Manchester: February 16, 1874.

‘Madam,—At the quarterly meeting of the Committee of this institution, held at the Town Hall, King Street, on Friday last, the following resolution was passed, and I was instructed to forward a copy of the same to you:—

‘Moved by H. J. Leppoc, Esq., seconded by Mr. Alderman Platt, and resolved—

‘“That this meeting expresses its deep sense of the loss sustained by the charity in the death of the Senior Surgeon, Thomas Turner, Esq., and records its grateful thanks for his long and valuable professional services, which, whenever required, were always freely and zealously given.

‘“Mr. Turner received the appointment of Honorary Surgeon at the opening of the institution, half a century ago; and some time after the school was established in the



present building, he conceived the idea that the earlier training of the deaf and dumb was of special importance, and proposed the erection of an infant school, which, mainly through his exertions, was effected, being at that time (if not now) the only *infant* school for the deaf and dumb in existence, and which still remains a monument of his untiring zeal.

‘I have the honour to be, Madam,

‘Yours most obediently,

‘JOSEPH LANT,

‘Secretary.

‘To Miss Turner.’

We turn from these more public expressions of feeling, to a few of the very numerous letters of sympathy received by the members of Mr. Turner's family, those being selected in which the most striking traits of his character are especially mentioned.

In a letter addressed to Mrs. Halstead, the Rev. Canon M'Grath, after alluding to the obituary notices of Mr. Turner which had appeared in the newspapers, as ‘gratifying testimonies to the usefulness and excellence of the life of your dear father,’ thus proceeds:—

‘They must be very comforting to you and dear Kate; and if he had left nothing else behind him for his children, he has left them an inheritance in a good name, which is of priceless value. But the comfort which you have in knowing that he rested without misgiving upon his Saviour, and claimed no righteousness but His, is better still.

‘I remember your dear father when he once had a serious attack of erysipelas, and was beginning to recover, saying to me that he almost felt afraid to be restored to health and life, for he had had such peace and joy in resting on Christ, he feared having to go again into the world's occupations, with all its snares and temptations. This showed that he had (what it is so essential to all to have) *personal dealings* with his God, and real communing with Him.

‘Of course, at his advanced age, we could not expect him to be long with us here; and how much happier for



himself and for you all that he was received to a blessed home before his mind was impaired, and when he had so recently been engaged in public occupation, which showed the still remaining vigour of his mind.

‘Dear Kate will specially miss him most, and you all must feel that the sheaf-band which bound the group together being severed, there is not the same family rendezvous in the “old house at home.” But we are all moving on, and a few short years must see us all gathered together in the heavenly home, where all the family of Jesus will be present, and none but the family there.’

Sir James Bardsley, in a letter addressed to Miss Turner, in which he speaks of Mr. Turner’s ‘personal worth, moral excellence, indefatigable energy and perseverance, strong intellect, and high attainments,’ writes, upon hearing of the preparation of the foregoing pages:—

‘I am much pleased to find that the memoir of my dear departed friend is so soon to be in the printer’s hands, as it will be most acceptable, not merely to his more intimate friends, but especially to the large class of persons who have benefited by his skill, long experience, and unbounded liberality and kindness.

‘I may truly say that if he had a fault it was that of too great sacrifice of self for the good of others.’

Mr. Turner’s attached friend, the Rev. Dr. Bell, thus writes:—

‘The Vicarage, Goole : December 18, 1873.

‘My dear Miss Turner,—My heart has been sad to-day. On taking up the *Manchester Guardian* this morning I saw the announcement of the death of my dear friend—your dear father—whom I loved with sincere affection.

‘I continued to hope that he might rally so much as to give me a chance of seeing him once more. Alas! that hope is now gone, and my only solace is that he is now “for ever with the Lord.”

‘His kindness, his gentleness, and (in one word) truly Christian action in everything, will ever be impressed upon my heart and mind; and I can only hope that his example



will not be lost upon those before whom he set it so brightly.

‘Lady Dillon unites with me in the sincere wish that God may sustain you and your sisters and brothers under your great bereavement.

‘Ever yours sincerely,

‘DAVID BELL, M.D.’

And again, on Dec. 23, 1873 :—

‘We have not forgotten you and yours, and were with you yesterday<sup>1</sup> in mind and heart in your painful duty. I cannot realise that my dear old friend has been taken from me, and that I am no longer to enjoy that affectionate intercourse with him that I have had the pleasure of experiencing from time to time. My great endeavour must be to follow his steps, that I may be with him in blessed happiness in glory everlasting.’

Mr. Turner was descended, as previously stated, upon his mother’s side, from an old Cornish family, at Ladock, of the name of Ferris. The following letter penned by a relative is especially interesting, from the insight into Mr. Turner’s character which it manifests :—

‘December 18, 1873.

‘My very dear Friends,—We have learnt from to-day’s newspaper the not unexpected intelligence of your father’s decease—of him whom you loved so well and so worthily. . . . .

‘We feel this loss in a degree second only to yourselves, for your father, in addition to the ties of near kindred, had endeared himself to me far beyond what I can attempt to express in words by every quality of heart and head ; and to my dear wife equally so during the fifteen years she had known him.

‘What always struck me so much in your father was the wonderful balance of his bodily and mental powers, and each in a high degree of vigour, and seen in a calm, persistent energy. It was, indeed, an example of the *mens sana in corpore sano*.

<sup>1</sup> The day of Mr. Turner’s funeral.



‘For some sixty years he carried on his professional work with freshness up to the verge of eighty. No tongue can tell, for no one knows, the labour (night and day) he went through during this long period. In my frequent visits to your house, for twenty-five years, after a hard day’s work—and such were most days—he seldom showed signs of fatigue, and there was the same genial play of spirits and of cheerfulness.

‘But this long, laborious, and valuable life has run its course; and few men have done more for the benefit of their fellow-creatures from the high motive of “glory to God and the relief of man’s estate.”

‘While you cannot but deeply feel this loss you will be sustained by the consolation arising from a type of high excellence, of bright Christian profession and example; of one honoured, admired, and beloved to an extent, and for a period, falling but rarely to men in any profession. . . .

‘My wife joins me in affectionate regards; and with our kind remembrances to ——

‘I am yours affectionately,

‘OCTAVIUS ALLEN FERRIS.’

The following letter is from the pen of the eminent surgeon, John Gay, Esq., F.R.C.S., member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, and well known as the author of many valuable medical treatises:—

‘10 Finsbury Place South, London, E.C.:  
February 10, 1874.

‘Dear Miss Turner,—Allow me to express my sympathy with you under your heavy bereavement.

‘I had the honour of your late father’s friendship, and of being officially associated with him; and can therefore in part testify to the depth and sincerity of his social character, as well as to the very high and well-earned estimation in which he was held by his professional brethren. To us his loss is very great; and in part I am enabled thereby to judge how great it must have been to yourself.



‘I am sorry to have delayed so long thus to write to you, but until I saw Mrs. T——, a few days ago, I did not know to whom I could make the acknowledgment of the great favour done me in sending the “In Memoriam.”

‘Again begging you to accept these faint expressions of my esteem for your late lamented parent, and assuring you of my sympathy,

‘Believe me to be, dear Miss Turner,

‘Yours truly,

‘JOHN GAY.’

The Rev. Canon Beechey, recently the vicar of Worsley, thus writes:—

‘Hilgay Rectory, Downham, Norfolk: January 1, 1874.

‘My dear Miss Turner,—It was with the deepest regret that I heard from my son Edward of the death of my old kind friend and brother of twenty-five years’ standing—your dear and much loved father.

‘Although arrived at that time of life when it would have been unreasonable to hope to have him with you very many years, yet he seemed still so active in mind and body that nature appeared to forbear decay, and we could hardly think of losing him. But if any man ever fulfilled the wise man’s saying, “There is a time to die,” he surely did. He had led a long life of usefulness, such as few can boast; he had gathered so many friends, and never a single enemy; he had comforted and healed such multitudes of patients, and had been no less kind, patient, and skilful to so many poor—of whom he never took a fee—and more, oh, how much more than all these together, because it was the source from which they all proceeded—he had been so humbly, faithfully, and sincerely religious—that had he lived long to wither in feebleness or uselessness we must have much more deplored his fate.

‘To me and mine both he and your dear mother were sincere friends, and fellow-labourers in the same school of work. Perhaps it is the most painful part of growing old that one by one we see our former friends drop down by our side; yet is it not all weaning our too



fond hearts from this lower world and fixing our affections on things above?

‘I fear however, dear Miss Turner, that to you his loss is more than usually deep. . . . . May every grace and blessing rest on you.

‘You have and you deserve every comfort under your loss that any ever had, and very many kind, sympathising friends to share it with you. Mrs. Beechey and my daughters send their kindest love and condolence, with that, dear Miss Turner, of

‘Your sincere friend,

‘ST. VINCENT BEECHEY.’

The Rev. Canon Bardsley, of whose congregation Mr. Turner was a member for many years, writes:—

‘St. Ann’s Rectory.

‘So your father has gone—a good man and true. There are few men, if any, who have given more time and attention to the sick and afflicted, without fee and reward. . . . . He continued this noble work to the last. . . . . “It is by grace we are saved through faith, and that not of ourselves, it is the gift of God.” And this grace I feel sure your father had. He therefore now rests from his labours, and his works do follow him.’

The Rev. A. Haworth, in a letter of sympathy addressed to Miss Turner, thus writes of the personal kindness experienced by him from Mr. Turner:—

‘Heywood Street: December 24, 1873.

‘I have a hallowed recollection of his touching fatherly kindness to me and to one dear to me, in one season of deep trial. But our case was only one of thousands in which his noble generosity and his unselfish spirit were manifested. . . . . I pray that He whose birth we commemorate at this season, who is a brother born for adversity, and “sticketh closer than a brother,” may grant you that comfort and consolation which He alone can impart; for perhaps there is no part of a Christian’s experience in which



the name of our Lord—Emmanuel—is more expressive and precious than in the season of adversity. . . . . It is *then*, if ever, we feel that we need Christ *with us*; and it is *then*, if ever, that He *is* with us.’

A valued friend of the family, E. R. Le Mare, Esq., thus wrote at the time of Mr. Turner’s dangerous illness:—

‘Dear Miss Turner,— . . . . . While I deeply sympathise with you I cannot but be truly thankful to hear that your beloved father finds peace in reposing on the finished work of Christ. It is, indeed, a triumph of grace to see so fine and great and superior a mind as his brought to receive the simple Gospel of Christ. To such a mind the very simplicity of the Gospel plan of salvation must present difficulties which lower minds cannot understand. . . . .

‘If your dear father is capable of receiving a message will you express to him the deep respect I have ever felt for him? . . . . . I can truly say I have always regarded him as one of the brightest intellectual ornaments of this community.

‘Believe me, dear Miss Turner,

‘Yours very sincerely,

‘E. R. LE MARE.’

And again, after Mr. Turner’s decease:—‘I will not intrude upon grief like yours more than to express my deep sympathy. Such sorrows are sacred; and yet as long as we are in this world, and capable of human feelings, sympathy is soothing.’

And again, many months afterwards, the same friend thus expresses his warm appreciation of Mr. Turner’s abilities:—

‘I had a profound respect for him, and a very high opinion of his intellectual endowments. I once heard him deliver an impromptu address on *instinct* in animals and *reason* in man, which I can never forget. The way



in which he traced instinct from its lowest up to its highest state, and then showed how, even in its highest state, it fell immeasurably short of reason in man, gave me a very high idea of his mental powers.'

Letters of condolence were also received by Mr. Turner's family from medical men who had been educated in the Royal School of Medicine under his care.

One of these, now practising as a surgeon in the army, wrote from Edinburgh as follows, on December 20, 1873 :—

'It was with much regret I read the announcement of Mr. Turner's decease in the journals last week. I have cause to remember him very kindly, as I was a former pupil of his in Manchester, at the School of Medicine, and then at the Infirmary, for some years. As a lecturer he was much liked by his audience, and, as a surgeon, he was a great favourite with the students, both for his genial manner and happy style of imparting information. I have met with him several times since I entered the army on occasions of visiting Manchester. He always retained a recollection of me, and was pleased to receive my visit with his usual kind cordiality. . . . . I was surprised at seeing that an age beyond general human expectation had been vouchsafed to him, and he had, I believe, generally good health to enjoy the achievement of his aspirations. If I could be favoured with any memento of my late friend and preceptor, such as his photo-portrait, or a pamphlet by him, at any future convenient opportunity, I should be much obliged.'

Another writes :—

'I have just heard of the decease of my late friend and master.

'I need scarcely assure you that he was ever kind and ready to assist me in any way by his advice in prosecuting the duties of our profession. His memory will be ever cherished by me as long as I live for his never-varying



kindness, and the good counsel which he gave me in years gone by, during my pupilage at the School of Medicine.'

And again, another writes, begging 'to offer his sincere sympathy to the family of the late Mr. Turner in their great bereavement,' adding that he 'must ever respect the memory of his noble teacher, and feels a deep satisfaction that it was afterwards often his privilege to be close to Mr. Turner at the school.'

The following touching note, penned by a former patient of Mr. Turner's in Manchester, may be regarded as a specimen of the feeling expressed in many received by Miss Turner, and will be followed by a few extracts taken almost indiscriminately from a pile of similar letters:—

' Blackburn : December 19, 1873.

' My dear Miss Turner,—The newspaper has been taken up with fear and foreboding, lest it should contain news I dreaded to see; and this morning, when my dear husband came to my room, and, kissing me, said quietly, "Your good old friend has gone home, Annie," I could only shed silent tears for the departed. But my heart-feelings of sympathy seemed to fly to you, and I longed to press your hand, and to mingle my tears with yours, as your dear father did nearly six years ago, when my own mother breathed her last in my arms; and again, two years later, when I lost two beloved brothers, the last of whom died almost on the same day, and at the very hour, that your dear father did. He poured forth words of sympathy and comfort, as he always did, whether the occasion was one of sorrow or of joy. I cannot tell you how treasured his letters are now, nor how sacred his memory is to me. I venture, therefore, without fear of being deemed intrusive, to add mine to the great number of such letters as you will doubtless receive. Heaven seems to have grown so much richer and earth so much poorer since yesterday; and yet there creeps over me the comforting feeling that he is nearer now than before, and that there is another added to the "cloud of witnesses above." I loved him as a father



next my own, and he ever acted as a stimulus to all that was good in me, and therefore every thing and person connected with him is dear for his sake.

‘May God bless and comfort you, “as one whom his mother comforteth;” and, if it is not asking too much, would you, by-and-bye, when you are able to write, let me know something of the closing hours of one I *almost adored*?’

‘I am, my dear Miss Turner,  
 ‘Yours, in deep and affectionate sympathy,  
 ‘A. M. S.’

Another attached patient thus writes:—

‘At his death we lost physician, friend, and spiritual adviser. He had a woman’s tenderness of heart combined with a man’s firmness and strength of character, and his clear perception of what it was right to do in time of danger, and decision in carrying it out, were most striking. His beautifully sonorous voice, and particularly buoyant and genial nature, carried brightness into the household whenever he entered it. I may truly say he was the most valued friend of my life. Upon many occasions, when no clergyman knew of our need of spiritual advice and comfort, he was the means of conveying it to us; but a more humble-minded Christian never lived. He seemed truly ready to “depart and be with Christ.” *Ours* is the loss and *his* the gain.’

And another:—

“I loved, valued, and esteemed my dear kind friend more than any other in the world, and I am feeling his loss greatly, for I miss, not only his advice, but his kind, fatherly ways.’

Again, a gentleman writes of Mr. Turner as ‘one dearly loved, from whom, for thirty years, I ——, and from babyhood my dear wife, ——, received so much kindness. His sympathy was always so ready, so delicate, and yet so hearty. I have ever considered your beloved father one . . . . . of the finest and noblest Christian characters it was ever my privilege to know.’



‘You may well be proud of your lamented father’s career—honoured above most in an honourable profession, and highly esteemed by his patients, not only for his superior talents but for his kindly sympathy with them in their sorrows. Although you mourn his loss, at his age his removal was not so much like death as tired nature seeking repose—a falling asleep.’

‘This morning —— received a memorial card, and we know that all the last sad offices of love and deep affection have been rendered to your dear father. All who knew loved and honoured him, and we can only add our testimony to this. With him all is well, and through a boundless eternity he will adore and serve that Saviour whom he knew as *his* Redeemer.’

‘The loss of your dear father has been a deep sorrow to you all . . . . . but you have been blessed in having his life spared to you beyond the allotted time of man, and that, too, in good health . . . . . and his mental powers granted to an advanced age. . . . . It was a great comfort that you could all be much with him in his last days, and at the termination of his long, useful, and brilliant career. All who had the pleasure of his friendship and acquaintance, loved and admired him for his large-heartedness and many virtues. His bright manner, merry laugh, and cheerful greeting will long be remembered by us all, who entertained a true regard for him.’

‘I only returned from W—— on Friday, when I heard that he whom you so much loved, and who was by all so greatly valued and esteemed, had been taken home by our blessed Saviour. . . . . My sister and I, who have such great cause to remember with grateful esteem your dear father, deeply sympathise with you and the family, dear Miss Turner, in your deep sorrow.’

‘God gave to your beloved father the power of being of amazing use in his generation, and of living a most Christian life; also great length of days. How many



thousands will bless God that Mr. Turner was ever born! . . . . . I am sure that the universal love (as regards Manchester and the district) which Mr. Turner acquired by the work of his life must be a great comfort to you. He might have lived, like thousands, only to make money. His great kindness to me I shall always feel grateful for.'

'Mr. R—— forwarded me the card you were good enough to send me . . . . and this told me that in your sorrow you remembered me as one of the many friends of your dear father. If I were to express my feelings of respect, admiration, and gratitude it would only repeat what you must hear on all sides. His life was *full* of goodness and love and generosity to others. I never can forget what he was to me in my great trouble in every way. We cannot doubt that he who served his God so lovingly in this life is now himself finding his exceeding great reward, for it was done unto Him. Your loss is beyond words, and not to be lessened by human sympathy—largely as you will receive it. But I feel sure that you will be comforted by the Hand that afflicts you, and all thoughts of your dear father, be they in his life, death, or eternity, *must* be full of thankfulness.'

'You have lost the best of fathers—I have lost the friend I most valued, esteemed, and loved in the world. He told me to look upon him as a father, and I did, and loved him as such. . . . Truly I can say my tears will mingle with your own for the dear departed one, "not lost, but gone before." His last message will be treasured in my mind, as his letters have been for years past.'

'We often speak and think of your dear father, and his bright, noble, and kind face and cheery ringing laugh of brighter days. God bless him!'

'I read with great regret in the "Times" the sad loss you have sustained in the removal hence, I doubt not to a better world, of your honoured and much-loved father; and



although he was spared to you to a ripe old age, yet the snapping asunder of so tender an earthly tie is severely felt when we are called to part with one so deservedly loved as he was, as I had the privilege of knowing during the happy week I spent under your hospitable roof a few years ago, and which will ever abide in my memory as a season of spiritual refreshment. I was much gratified by the kind attention of either yourself or your brother in sending me the *Manchester Guardian*, wherein I read with great interest the account of your dear father's distinguished and useful career. How happy to think of him now in the presence of the Good Physician, in that land "where the inhabitants shall no more say, I am sick!"

But we need not multiply quotations. Mr. Turner had lived so as to be honoured, beloved, and respected, through the grace and strength given him from above. And, seeking the same Divine assistance, let us listen to the voice with which his example addresses us—'Go, and do thou likewise.'<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The following is a list of the degrees conferred upon Mr. Turner, the public situations held by him, and the various works of which he was the author:—

Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons; Member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, England; Fellow of the Linnæan Society; Fellow of the Royal Medico-Chirurgical Society; Honorary Member of the Harveian Society, London; Consulting Surgeon to the Manchester Royal Infirmary, and Ardwick and Ancoats Dispensary; Surgeon to the Deaf and Dumb Institution; Honorary Professor of Physiology at the Royal Institution; Chairman of the Manchester and Salford Sanitary Association; late Lecturer on Anatomy and Physiology at the Manchester Royal School of Medicine and Surgery.

Author of 'Outlines of Medico-Chirurgical Science;' 'Observations on Aneurism and Hæmorrhage;' 'Provincial Medical Education;' 'Treatise on Dislocations of the Astragalus, and Injuries of the Foot;' 'Retrospect of Anatomy and Physiology,' &c.



## APPENDIX.

SINCE the foregoing pages have been sent to the press, the following communication has been made by Mr. Turner's executors to the Principal of the Owens College:—

'Dear Sir,—As executors under the will of the late Thomas Turner, Esq., of Mosley Street, Manchester, we have at our disposal his Museum of Anatomical Specimens, lately forming part of the Pine Street Museum, Manchester.

'It is left to us to transfer to some "Medical Institution of a permanent character in the city of Manchester, for the purpose of education in medical and surgical science," and remembering the distinguished place which your College now occupies, and the lively interest which the late Mr. Turner took in the amalgamation of the Pine Street School of Medicine with your College, we (conjointly with the members of Mr. Turner's family) feel that we shall best comply with his wishes by offering his Museum to your College, and shall be much gratified by your acceptance of it.

'We have the honour to remain, Sir,

'Very faithfully yours,

'W. H. HAMILTON,

'H. HALSTEAD.

'Marton Rectory, Skipton-in-Craven:

'April 2, 1875.'

This letter received the following acknowledgment from Principal Greenwood:—

'The Owens College, Manchester: April 6, 1875.

'Gentlemen,—Your letter arrived to-day just in time to allow of my reading it before the half-yearly meeting of the Court of Governors.



‘We had already received, one day last week, the formal intimation, through Messrs. Gill, Radford, and Gill, of your intention to make this most welcome and valuable gift, and, in fact, I had drawn up a supplementary report to the Court announcing the gift, in order that it might find a place in the minutes of this half-year’s meeting.

‘ . . . . Resolutions were passed of cordial acknowledgment, accepting the Museum on the conditions annexed.

‘My short report will be printed in the course of a few days, and I will then forward to you a copy of the same. Meanwhile accept our most sincere thanks for this very valuable gift, and believe that I am,

‘Most truly yours,

‘J. G. GREENWOOD.

‘To the Rev. W. H. Hamilton and  
‘Herbert Halstead, Esq.’

The meeting referred to in the preceding letters was thus alluded to in the Manchester papers for April 12, 1875:—

‘At the half-yearly meeting of the Governors of Owens College, a letter was read from the Rev. W. H. Hamilton and Mr. Herbert Halstead, the executors of the late Mr. Thomas Turner, of Mosley Street, presenting to the College, in their own name and that of Mr. Turner’s family, his Medical and Surgical Museum, which had been bequeathed to them, with power to transfer it to some permanent institution in the city of Manchester, for the purpose of promoting education in medical and surgical science. The gift of this large and valuable collection (which will be known as the Turner collection), formed by Mr. Turner at great cost, both of time and money, was cordially accepted by the Governors; and over and above its direct value, it will be most welcome as a permanent memorial of one who was the founder of the Manchester Royal Medical School, and who had for fifty years directed it with the utmost zeal and success.’







20















