as may be tired of the older winter climates and thankful for a new one. A map of the Gulf of Genoa, and of Corsica and the adjacent mainland, is added to the author's description of the latter places. Dr. Bennet's work, independent of its purely sanitary aspect, now constitutes a very interesting book of continental travel, and as such alone might be recommended to all book-clubs and libraries.

M. NÉLATON'S VISIT TO GARIBALDI.

THIS eminent Paris surgeon was requested by Garibaldi and his four medical attendants to give them the advantage of his opinion on the question of amputation. M. Nélaton arrived at Spezia on the 28th ult., at two o'clock in the morning. At eight o'clock he was with the patient; and after a few words of a very touching nature on both sides, the Professor examined the state of general health, which he found satisfactory, and after sounding and inspecting the wound, he said: "General, I am happy to say that I do not think amputation necessary, as the ball may be easily extracted." To which the patient replied: "I far prefer this solution to that previously given, and I am very thankful to you." M. Nélaton has drawn up a report upon the case, in which we find the following lines:—

"I think that the ball lies within the wound, and that the probe strikes against it when introduced about one inch into the part. I must say that my impression, as to the state of the wound, was very favourable when the limb was freed from the dressings."

After alluding to various other circumstances in support of his opinion, M. Nélaton goes on to say: "The patient is not in danger at present; the pulse is good, the skin cool, the appetite sufficient, sleep satisfactory, and the aspect of the patient excellent. As to treatment, I think that the opening should be gradually widened for some days, towards the foreign body, by means of dilating substances. At the end of five or six days, the wound will be large enough to admit of extraction with the ball forceps. It is preferable to extract thus gradually than by immediate means, which, however, would be quite practicable. Summary measures of the latter kind would present some difficulties; they would give rise to much pain and fever. They are, moreover, not imperiously required, as the patient's general health is every day improving."

This report was handed to the four surgeons in attendance on Garibaldi, who were to meet on the 29th. M. Nélaton would have been happy to join them, but was obliged to leave immediately for Paris in consequence of a pressing telegram. Before leaving, however, he wished to be present at the evening dressing of the wound. He then took leave of the General, who expressed his gratitude in so touching a manner that M. Nélaton was deeply affected. At eight P.M. M. Nélaton left Spezia, and went on board the steamer, accompanied by the four surgeons who had requested his presence—viz., MM. Ripari, Prandina, Albanese, and Basile. Many other medical men were present, as well as Dr. Vio Bonato, who was M. Nélaton's companion from Paris and back.

We have just received the *Imparziale* of Florence of Nov. 1st, wherein the editor, Dr. Galligo, gives the result of the consultation alluded to above. Professor Zannetti, one of the consulting surgeons, resumes it thus: "The bullet cannot be felt by the finger introduced into the wound; the joint is in a satisfactory state, and the wound does not present complications; the ball will remain, or be cast off in time; the recovery, though certain, will be tedious." Another telegram attributes the following words to M. Nélaton: "Amputation in the present state of the patient would be a guilty act." The editor of the *Imparziale* is not satisfied with the expectant turn which the treatment is taking, and quarrels with the view of Professor Zannetti, who considers that the wound presents no complications, although the tibio-tarsal articulation is open and the malleolus fractured—although it contains a projectile, the actual seat of which none of the seventeen surgeons can ascertain, but which in all probability has penetrated the astragalus or the lower part of the tibia. He also criticizes the view that "the ball will remain or be cast off in time," since the first precept in surgery in such cases is to extract the projectile, or at least to look upon its presence as a complication. To leave the ball impacted may, according to Dr. Galligo, the editor,

lead to profuse suppuration or purulent absorption. As no one knows where the projectile is lodged, who can vouch for the "certain recovery, though tedious"? There is much truth in these remarks; but the author forgets that Nélaton advises the enlargement of the wound by tents, and the final extraction when sufficient room is obtained.

REMARKABLE CASE OF INJURY AND RECOVERY.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I am induced to send the following case for insertion in your widely-circulating journal, chiefly because it may prove interesting to some of your readers, and also because it has been alluded to in some of the papers as "extraordinary, if true," &c. &c.

Macknesky Leon, aged thirty-five, a Pole, while being employed as a labourer in the hold of the Liverpool steam-ship *Sicilian*, in this harbour, discharging bar iron, and while in a stooping position preparing to sling a bundle for hoisting on deck, a bar from the one preceding slipped from the slings, and, descending end on, pinned him to the flooring of the hold, penetrating the wood to the extent of three inches, and requiring the united efforts of three men to extract it. The bar is of angular iron, an inch and a half square, and about fifteen feet long. The wounds were dressed by the captain, who simply applied pledgets of lint, steeped in the compound tincture of benzoin, to the sites of injury anteriorly and posteriorly, and a roller round the chest. It was reported to me that considerable hæmorrhage took place at the time.

On reception at the hospital about an hour after the accident, I found the patient much depressed; he had a feeble, quick pulse, and some dyspnoea; no cough. The dressings were not disturbed. Depression gradually subsided, and the reaction was moderate, no inflammatory or other unpleasant symptoms following. The patient was kept in a large ward, with the windows open night and day; and cold applications of a strong infusion of matico, in which a little chlorate of potash was dissolved, were employed. He did not micturate for the first twenty-four hours, and the bladder appeared quite empty. The bowels did not act until the fourth day, although castor oil and injections were administered freely. On the fourth day the bowels were evacuated freely once, and the kidneys acted regularly.

On the fifth day, in the presence of my friend Mr. J. Murphy, the surgeon of her Majesty's ship *Gannet*, I removed the dressings, found the wounds discharging freely and granulating kindly. The same treatment was continued—viz., pledgets saturated as above. The iron had entered posteriorly between the ninth and tenth rib, on the left side, a little before the angle, traversing the thorax in an upward and slightly outward direction, and coming out anteriorly between the fifth and sixth ribs about an inch below, and slightly outwards of, the nipple.

There was only slight constitutional disturbance for the first few days, with slight cough, but no dyspnoea. This yielded to the antiphlogistic regimen and saline draughts, the bowels throughout being gently relaxed. He was discharged quite well on the 8th September, and I now have him employed as a groom, for the purpose of keeping him under daily observation.

I leave it to the reader to infer what important textures this square-headed bar must either have passed through or pushed on one side in its course, by drawing a line from the site of entrance to that of exit.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

CHAS. WM. HOYLAND, F.R.C.S., Eng.,

Surgeon-Superintendent of the British
Constantinople, Sept. 1862. Seaman's Hospital, Constantinople.

TESTIMONIAL TO A MEDICAL PRACTITIONER.—A most numerous and influential meeting of the inhabitants of Anston, and several parishes near Rotherham, Yorkshire, lately took place at Anston, for the purpose of presenting a valuable testimonial to a highly-respected and benevolent practitioner. A telescope, forming part of the present, bore the following inscription:—

"Presented with a service of plate, time-piece, and microscope (value together £150), to William Latimer, Esq., Surgeon, Anston, as a token of esteem, by the inhabitants of ten parishes, being the district wherein his professional duties have been exercised during the last thirty years."