The end of which was fixed an olive-shaped body, made of unpolished china, upon which more contact would leave a mark of the projectile, and prove its presence. M. Charrière made several instruments of this kind, composed of a silver stem, ending in a china knob. The mere rubbing of this instrument against lead is sufficient to make a stain, which neither the soft parts nor the morbid secretions could obliterate; a simple rotation of the instrument upon its axis fixes upon it a kind of meridian.

"But affirmations of mines are not sufficient—proof is the main thing; nor has this been wanting, for, with this instrument, Professor Zanetti became so certain of the presence of the ball that he forthwith extracted it.

"Other instruments have been proposed to diagnose a ball at the bottom of a wound. M. Favre, Professor at Marseilles, has invented the following:—Two conducting wires are placed at the bottom of a wound. If you introduce the end of these into a contact with a metallic body, the needle of the galvanometer will immediately curve to a reversed position. If one couple, however, should be used, so as to avoid the decomposition of the fluids in the wound, which decomposition would immediately give rise to a current."

Correspondence.

"Audi alteram partem."

THE LANCASHIRE DISTRESS MEDICAL FUND.

To the Editor of The Lancet.

Sir,—I beg gratefully to acknowledge, from the proprietors of The Lancet, the receipt, on behalf of the Medical Kitchen, of the sum of £620, the cheque for which I had great pleasure in handing over to the president of the committee, the Rev. Dr. Roshton.

The necessity for the formation of this and similar establishments throughout the stricken districts of Lancashire is being painfully felt by those medical men who are called upon to cope with diseases greatly aggravated, if not actually induced, by that state of semi-starvation to which so large a proportion of our poor have been reduced; and I am sure the members of the medical profession owe no small debt of gratitude to The Lancet for inaugurating a movement which cannot fail greatly to strengthen their hands, and enable them to combat disease with some measure of success. Without some such scheme, the lives of hundreds must inevitably be sacrificed. Nourishment and warmth, as well as physic, are required; and without these adjuncts, the utmost efforts of the medical man will avail but little, when contending against disease occurring in persons whose powers of vitality have been reduced, by starvation, to a minimum.

Our "Kitchen" has only been at work for a few days, but sufficiently long to prove how great a boon it must eventually become to both patient and medical man. I remain, Sir, yours truly,

EDWARD S. MORLEY.

To the Editor of The Lancet.

Sir,—The noble example you have set and propounded in your last week's publication will, I trust, be followed by those of our profession who are well-to-do, by which means the lessened mortality has not been, and is not, confined to one district and class of people in England, &c., but extends to all districts and all classes of people. Therefore to say that our efforts should be directed to the creation of a monthly (or weekly) income. With this view, I herewith forward £61, and will send a like sum on the 1st of the ensuing four months, or longer if necessary.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

HENRY W. KIALLMARK, M.R.C.S.

To the Editor of The Lancet.

Sir,—I have much pleasure in contributing to the above fund; but as the want of medical comforts &c. will rather increase than diminish as the winter goes on, I would suggest that our efforts should be directed to the creation of a monthly (or weekly) income. With this view, I herewith forward £1, and will send a like sum on the 1st of the ensuing four months, or longer if necessary.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM RAYNER, M.D., J.P.

To the Editor of The Lancet.

Sir,—For the last twelve months or more there has been a considerable immunity from disease, especially epidemic disease, and a lessened mortality has been the consequence. This lessened mortality has not been, and is not, confined to one district and class of people in England, &c., but extends to all districts and all classes of people. Therefore to say that the diminished means of expenditure in the manufacturing districts largely accounts for the above phenomena, is illogical, untrue, and anything but comprehensive, and cannot be entertained as a solution of the problem; for both these people and districts, affected or unaffected by the cotton famine, are alike under the one general influence—an influence of immediate good, so far as present health and mortality are concerned. But what of this? Has not previously increased disease and mortality, been more or less prospected than? Supposing the outbreak of, perhaps, those interested in low earnings, gladly and hurriedly avail themselves of the latter facts, and cry out that diminished means of expenditure—an expenditure limiting the consumption of luxuries—have caused the reduction of health and mortality; but remember, on the other hand, a little more decent in diminished means, and you will have people crying...