had been continued at intervals up to the time of her confinement, but since that time, the pains in her inferior extremities having been so much more intense, the uneasiness in the neck, and the injury sustained there, had been forgotten.

Having now ascertained the seat of the disease, to excite a permanent counterirritation, we applied a seton immediately over the affected part. A strip of linen an inch wide was introduced, and on returning five or six days after, we found some granulations shooting out of the wound—the discharge of matter was trifling. For the purpose of procuring a discharge more copious, and for the removal of the granulations, we caused the strip of linen to be wet, several times a day, with a pretty strong solution of the sulphate of copper, to be continued until the granulations were destroyed, and the discharge of matter become more copious. No alteration appeared in her condition until the expiration of three months, when the superior extremities returned gradually under the control of the will, and have since remained free from the slightest muscular irregularity; but she was yet incapable of giving the smallest motion to the inferior extremities. Encouraged at our ends having been thus far accomplished, the superior extremities having returned under the control of the will, and rapidly approaching to a perfectly healthy condition, the consummation of which required only the stimulus of action, we felt exceedingly anxious to try a seton about the lumbar region. To this the patient positively objected—the seton in the neck, she

said, had been so exquisitely painful, that she would not endure another, even if assured of being restored thereby to the use of her inferior limbs. Determined not to abandon the case after gaining so much, we requested her to let us place a plaster on her back—to which she readily assented. The plaster was applied, charged with the potential cautery, and remained twelve hours. On its removal, the impression made seemed considerable. The part was dressed with unguentum basilicon, which was suffered to remain until the next day, when we found a fine deep ulcer extending six inches along the spinal column, and one inch wide: this ulcer discharged copiously for six weeks, and at the expiration of three months, the patient found no difficulty in walking, has since remained in good health, and can undergo more bodily exertion than any of her sisters.

III.

REMARKS ON THE AMELIORATION OF OUR PHYSICAL CLIMATE.*

By DAVID THOMAS.

AMONG the visions of Philosophy in the last age, none has been more pleasing than the notion that with the destruction of our forests, the rigors of winter will abate; and that Hesperian fruits and flowers without protection, will soon decorate and enrich these northern regions.

It seems surprising that those theorists should permit a few isolated facts from history, and a few random assertions from

poetry, to engross their attention, to the total neglect of every surrounding circumstance.

Let us consider what happens in our forests. The fallen leaves prevent the soil from freezing in winter; * the trees obstruct the radiation of heat in clear nights; the snow settles evenly through the woods; the cold winds are unable to throw it into drifts, and the warm winds to melt it until the commencement of spring. Many a green-house plant would abide the winter with such protection.

But with the removal of the forest, this shelter is withdrawn, and the ground then freezes to the depth of several inches.

If it be alleged that the warm winds have more access, so do the cold winds. If the sunshines clearly on the open plain, it gives more heat amid the reflection and shelter of leafless trees; and it is well known that fields surrounded by woods, produce earlier pasture than the open plains.†

But by what agent can a cultivated country disarm the wintry tempest of its rigor, when the mercury sinks below zero? How can it soften those freezing winds which overwhelm it for days together? On the vast surface of our inland seas, and on the wide spreading prairies of the West, how can cultivation affect the physical climate?—for there are no forests to be destroyed.

In the open country of the Mandans—not as far north as the city of Paris—Lewis and Clark found

the thermometer 33 deg. below zero. At the falls of St. Mary's, near Lake Superior, Dr. Foot found it 30 deg. below zero "on the 6th of February;" and in the mornings of the two last days of that month, it stood 24 deg. below zero.

We are near to regions that endure a polar winter; we are within the reach of their frozen atmosphere; and we can hope for a milder climate only when the north winds shall be retained.

IV.

CASE OF LICHEN AGRIUS.

To the Editor of the Boston Med. and Surg. Journal.

SIR,—The enclosed statement of Lichen Agrius, of Bateman, is submitted for publication, if considered of sufficient moment.

Respectfully, yours, &c.

TIMO. L. JENNISON.

Cambridge, Jan. 24, 1831.

In June, 1823, Mrs. W., a woman otherwise in good health, aged 64, after a hard day's work, and very hot day, was attacked with a severe *Lichen Agrius* (of Bateman). Possessed of good powers of mind, she used various remedies, assayed by her own judgment, as well as the recommendation of her intimate friends. The result was equally fallacious; seeming but to augment her troubles, without curing her malady. In the following autumn, she became my patient with like want of success. I advised her afterwards to repair to the General Hospital, where a kind patroness aided my views. She tarried there — weeks, availing herself of the advice of eminent

* In this northern part of the 43d degree of latitude.

† It may be less known that some vernal flowers bloom finely in the woods, while the same kinds are despoiled of their beauty by frosts in the open garden.