state, which was, at present, only simulated.

Nothing certainly could be more remarkable, or present a greater contrast, than the face of gloom in the commencement, and the cheerful and pleasing demeanor at the termination.—*Medical Gazette*.

VI.

CASES OF LOSS OF VOICE (APHONIA) CURED BY OXYGEN.

By ROBERT JOHN THORNTON, M.D.
Member of the Royal London
College of Physicians.

MISS NORTON, of Fish street hill, and niece of Mr. Grey, of the Isle of Wight (who was cured, by the same remedy, of asthma which had existed fourteen years); was afflicted with loss of voice four years, so that she could not be understood, except by her mother, who by carefully watching the movements of her lips, made out what she intended to express by words. This complaint is probably dependent on those peculiar nerves called recurrent, which give energy to the numerous muscles of the glottis, and being unaccompanied by a disease of the lungs, is to be treated as a purely nervous affection. Miss Norton inhaled by my advice two gallons of oxygen, diluted with twice that quantity of atmospheric air, daily, together with a tonic (compound tincture of gentian), of which she took a teaspoonful three times a day. After pursuing this plan for three months, she completely recovered her voice.

Mr. Anstead, who is collector of the water gates for our division, and who lives at No. 55, Warren street, Fitzroy square, consulted me for a similar affection of the nerves of the glottis, and having no

cough, or reason to fear of any affection of the lungs, was in two months time entirely cured by the same treatment, and has remained free from any indication of a recurrence.

Mrs. Colonel Blount, afflicted with loss of voice, and symptoms of chronic inflammation of the mucous membrane of the windpipe, &c., received the following directions, viz. two gallons of oxygen, diluted with the same quantity of atmospheric air, to be inhaled for three days, and then the oxygen alone for a fortnight, which was accordingly administered by Mr. Worthington, who prepares and administers the gases, and she was by it, at the end of that time, completely cured.

I beg leave to observe, as birds sing principally in the spring and summer, may it not be from an increased quantity of oxygen in the atmosphere, given out by every green leaf? It is observed by Sonnini, "that the nightingale, which comes to us in the early part of April, loses, on its retreat to the shores of Africa, its melodious voice, and seems in that climate only to croak."—*Gazette of Practical Medicine*.

VII.

PALSY OF THE LOWER EXTREMITIES.

A YOUNG woman, about twenty-six years of age, of a spare habit of body, having for some months been affected with inflammatory fluor albus, applied at the Middlesex Hospital for medical advice. The physician prescribed an injection, composed of prussic acid, acetate of lead, and water, to be used three times a-day. After using this in-