Board of Health, it has promptly authorized the Commissioners of Woods and Forests to proceed in obtaining surveys and plans, for the formation of a park to extend over a hundred and fifty acres, the estimated cost of the freehold of which will be a hundred and fifty thousand pounds. That the application and the grant have not been made without good reason, may be seen from the following table, which shows the great rate of increase in the population of the northern metropolitan district :

		1841.	1851.	Increase.
North	- - -	376568	490441	113873
South	- - -	503346	616545	113199
East	- - -	393067	485336	92269
West	- - -	301189	376332	75143
Central	- - -	374199	392986	18787

These figures, we conceive, furnish an unanswerable argument in favor of the sanitary advantages of the preservation of the open spaces which it is proposed to include in this park. The pecuniary outlay is but the practice of a sound economy, which, in dispensing the means of health and rational gratification to the masses of our densely populated town, produces a saving both to it and to the nation by the preservation of effective labor, and by the prevention of the losses incurred to the community by sickness and death through epidemic and endemic diseases.

London Medical Gazette.

HISTORY OF A REMARKABLE ATTACK OF MEASLES IN A FAMILY AT PADUA.

BY DR. ARGENTI.

THE following fearful occurrences took place in the family of Signor Graziani, a respectable councillor of Padua. Measles had prevailed to some extent in the city, when *Joseph* Graziani, æt. 17, took them on the 21st of May, and recovered in a few days. On the 31st his married sister, *Theresa* (second case), æt. 28, called with her child, and on learning the nature of the disease, hurried away, much alarmed lest her child should take it, being then herself the prey to excessive grief from the recent death of her husband. She was engaged in a very fatiguing occupation, the management of silk worms; and attributed some febrile indisposition, which she experienced on the 12th and 13th of June, to over-exertion. Getting worse she took to bed, and on the 14th the eruption appeared. The removal of her child, to which she was devotedly attached, caused her great grief. The eruption was profuse and red; the accompanying fever was intense; and she suffered much from dyspnœa, and pain at the epigastrium. On the 17th she was bled twice, with some relief to the pain, but the fever continued excessive; on the 18th she was furiously delirious. The skin was hot, but the eruption had become pale. She was seized with tremors of the lips, convulsions of the limbs, and stertorous breathing, amidst which she expired. *Nina* (third case), æt. 3, was her child, and, though removed from its mother on the 14th of June, became the subject of the disease on the 25th.

This pursued a favorable course, though the fever was intense, and the convalescence tedious. *Annetta* (fourth case), æt. 16, of a lymphatic habit, enjoyed good health, and was also employed in managing silk-worms. She had severely felt the loss of *Theresa*, and, with her other sisters, was incessantly engaged in anxiously watching little *Nina* during this period. On the 8th and 9th of July the eruption appeared, became confluent, and was accompanied by great swelling of the head, and epistaxis. She was doing well, when, on the 11th, she arose from bed, and suppressed a copious sweat, the urine being, however, abundant. Hearing of her sister's death on the 12th, she became the subject of epileptiform convulsions and delirium, and in three quarters of an hour died. The autopsy was conducted in the presence of several able practitioners, who all agreed that no appearance explanatory of death was observed. *Fanny* (fifth case), æt. 14, of a nervous temperament and lymphatic habit, exhibited the eruption on the same days as *Annetta* (8th and 9th July), and by the 30th was convalescent. *Laura* (sixth case), æt. 22, of nervous temperament and scrofulous habit, and participating in the fatiguing employment and depressing emotions of her sisters, also exhibited the eruption on the 8th of July, it coming well out, but being less confluent than in the others. She went on very well till the 12th, when she was seized with violent delirium and epileptiform convulsions, and in an hour she was dead. In the autopsy, no change in the brain or other important organs (the spinal marrow, however, not being examined in these cases) could be discovered. *Josephine* (seventh case), æt. 19, of nervous temperament and scrofulous habit, but in tolerable health, felt much alarmed at these occurrences in the family, and on the 9th and 10th of July, the eruption appeared. Her removal from the presence of her dying sisters on the 12th, caused her great dismay and anguish. The eruption came well out; but as there was much fever and great disposition to lethargy, some leeches were applied to the head, and were followed by blisters (which had also been freely used in the other cases). She was more tranquillized in the afternoon, and there was less somnolence; but early in the evening she was seized with epigastric pain, as her sisters had been, and then with convulsions and delirium, expiring in about an hour after. The autopsy furnished similar negative results. *Maurice* (eighth case), æt. 12, exhibited the eruption on the 8th and 9th of July, and had become convalescent by the 18th. *Bartholomew* (ninth case), æt. 20, of plethoric habit, and accustomed to frequent bleeding, manifested such high febrile action on the 12th and 13th of July as to require two venesections. Later the febrile action took on an intermittent form, and quinine was given. He was convalescent by the 24th.

The eruption in this attack was quite normal, though very intense and confluent, and the disease presented nothing peculiar in its mode of invasion or complications; and yet four of the cases perished within an hour from the time that really dangerous symptoms set in; the morbid action seeming here to concentrate itself with all its force in the cerebro-spinal axis. In three of these, the autopsies, most carefully conducted, revealed nothing.

In regard to the ages of the victims it may be observed, that while Borsieri, Frank and Raimann believed there is greater danger for adults, Dr. Lees found in the Dublin epidemics, 1840—4, that it was in inverse proportion to the age. Levy, in his account of the epidemic among the military in 1837—47, states that fewer adults than boys died. In the present cases, the ages varied from 3 to 28. Of the five recoveries, four took place among the youngest; and all who died had attained puberty.

As concurring to impress upon these cases their remarkable fatality, may be their nervous-lymphatic temperament, scrofulous habit, physical debility, great sensibility, excessive alarm, and inordinate fatigue.—*Ome-dei Annali, in British and Foreign Medico-Chir. Review.*

SKETCHES OF EMINENT LIVING PHYSICIANS.—NO. XXII.

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THOMAS D. MITCHELL, M.D.

“Of its own beauty is the mind diseased
And fevers into false creation;—where,
Where are the forms the sculptor's soul hath seized?
In him alone. Can nature show so fair?
Where are the charms and virtues which we dare
Conceive in boyhood and pursue as men,
The unreach'd Paradise of our despair,
Which o'er-informs the pencil and the pen,
And overpowers the page when it would bloom again?”—BYRON.

“Jam, jam efficaci do manus scientiæ.”—HOR.

IF, after the termination of this life's fever, we could, from some elevated height, surveying at once the spiritual and material worlds, contemplate the struggles of a human soul (having experienced the same struggles ourselves), as it stimulates the material frame into activity, and itself into its own development and expansion; what a strife would we witness in this fermenting compound of mind and matter! How the soul would appear to taste the various sources of knowledge and enlargement; drinking in the streams of some intellectual beverages with the madness of the inebriate, and recoiling from or passing by others, with the irresistible energy of its own will and tastes. The fever of ambition, that “obstinate activity within,” which is felt in proportion to the strength of the mental faculties, that longing after something beyond the present (the dull *acquired* present), is a perpetual fever.

What man would look back along his life's history, without acknowledging that an intangible, but ever-longed-for something, in the future, had led him on like an ignis fatuus, to do “all that may become a man”? Cicero speaks of it in reference to his improvement in oratory; and all men, from Mahommed to Bacon, Sydenham or Washington, have felt the flame of this divine unrest. It is this spirit that drives, so remorselessly, the adventurous traveller over sterile wilds and barbarous countries—there, perhaps, to whiten the plains with his unburied bones—in