

much which is equally sound, while happily equally familiar to the profession; but the remarks on Puerperal Mania are, in our judgment, the least satisfactory in the volume. Sir James's wonted versatility of resource appears, if not to desert him, at least to be in much less vigorous form in grappling with this subtlest of sequelæ on reproductive disorder. Ten per cent. of all the females interned in lunatic asylums are found there from puerperal mania alone; but to the etiology or even the treatment of the malady Sir James can add little of his own. *Nous verrons* is the desponding remark he makes when referring to the use of tincture of actæa in certain cases—a remark which we are inclined to echo as to most of the recommendations urged in the lecture.

We must content ourselves with calling attention merely to the sections on Amenorrhœa, on Fibroid Tumours of the Uterus, and on the various mechanical displacements of that organ as worthy of perusal and reperusal by every professional reader. They are none the less instructive that they are free from the subacid undercurrent of controversy with which it was Sir James Simpson's lot to be so frequently involved with his contemporaries and even colleagues.

THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

THERE is an old legend that St. Luke was not only a physician, but a painter; and it is certain that there has always been a close fellowship between the members of the pictorial and those of the healing art. Thanks to the Council of the Royal Academy of Arts (who are probably mindful of this association), we have had the opportunity this year of inspecting, under very favourable circumstances, the exhibition which will open to the public on Monday next. We are sure that no more appreciative examiners of the admirable examples of art collected within the building in Piccadilly will be found elsewhere than in the ranks of our own profession. And, indeed, they will find a collection rich in evidences of the *labor et ingenium* which is the motto of the Academy. It would be out of place in this journal to attempt a critical review of the pictures, and we must, with some regret, confine ourselves to a brief notice of those which have some direct or indirect bearing upon the medical profession. And first amongst these we cannot fail to express our acknowledgment to Mr. Millais for his portrait of Sir James Paget. This is, indeed, an admirable likeness. The surgeon stands facing us, engaged, as no description is needed to show, in addressing a class. Perhaps there are some who would object that the painter's art had softened nothing, added nothing to his subject; but the absolute truth is surely best of all, and the baronet stands in the canvas as we have seen him stand scores of times in the lecture-theatre, so life-like, so truly the man portrayed, that it is literally difficult to imagine the impersonation a trick of the painter's brush. We must congratulate St. Bartholomew's upon the possession of such a work as this. As a portrait it seems to us greatly superior to that of the Marquis of Westminster, which hangs near it, and even to that of Mr. Fowler, the engineer (also by the same painter), which met with such well-merited praise two years ago. At all hazards, whilst speaking of Mr. Millais' works, we must notice No. 56, "Flowing to the River," which appears to us the most marvellous piece of realistic painting which we have ever seen from any hand. It is only a streamlet, bordered by shrubs and trees, with a background of autumn foliage, and the conventional angler at his sport, but it is a picture to make one dream of the autumn holidays and rest from toil and cares. It is enough to say that the

other works, and there are three more, by this marvellous painter are of equal merit. Another presentation portrait is that of Dr. Sharpey, by Mr. J. P. Knight, which is an excellent likeness of a professor whose name is a household word amongst us. In another gallery Mr. Erasmus Wilson, excellently painted by Mr. S. Pearce, looks down upon the visitors in a professional gown, with accessories which worthily commemorate the generous endowment by the well-known dermatologist. In the sculpture gallery we find busts of Dr. Lockhart Clarke, Dr. Greenhow, and Mr. South. The late Mr. Edwin Field, a first-rate lawyer and admirable amateur artist, used to say that "every man should have one business and one hobby." We cordially agree in this advice, and are apt, from personal predilection, to think that the hobby of a medical man may well be some form of the pictorial art. So think Sir Henry Thompson and Mr. J. L. Propert, each of whom contributes a worthy effort to the walls of the Academy. Sir Henry's "A Japanese Group" is a bit of still-life which presents no signs of any claim to be criticised as the work of an amateur. We have here a few Japanese vases upon a cloth-covered table, with the colouring so truthfully and, at the same time, so broadly rendered, as to form a picture extremely fascinating to an artist's eye, because of its evidence of power and decision, as well as correct appreciation of colour. And Mr. Propert's etching of "Greenwich Reach," all in printer's ink as it is, is so full of local colour and excellent effects of varying distance, that we turn away envious of the talent which can enable a hardworking medical man to produce in his leisure (whenever that may be) such a proof of deep artistic sentiment. But here we must stop. Would that it were our duty to note and dwell upon the pictures of F. Walker, Whistler, B. Rivière, Fildes as prominent examples of talent in an exhibition replete with evidences of good sound work.

THE ROYAL ORTHOPÆDIC HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In commenting upon my previous letters Lord Abinger has failed to understand the statements they contained. Upon 13th March the Annual Court of the Orthopædic Hospital was immediately followed by a Special Court. It was to this Special Court alone that I referred as that in contemplation of which the thirty new governors were made whose subscriptions were forwarded to the secretary by me. I had nothing whatever to do with making the eighty-one new governors who, Lord Abinger says, were added immediately prior to the Second Special Court, held on the 8th April, when his Lordship tried, unsuccessfully, to reverse the previous vote. I see, however, that amongst those new governors appear various members of his Lordship's own regiment and of his club.

With regard to my personal action at the courts, I did not vote at either of them, although both Mr. Tamplin and Mr. Adams did. It is almost too ridiculous to deny that I "betrayed satisfaction by the action of my feet"; but it is not true, and I do deny it, as his Lordship has thought it worth while to make the statement, and you have allowed it to appear in your columns. It is naturally a source of satisfaction to me that Lord Abinger's opinion of my "professional capacity" should be such as to lead him to be willing to concur in my appointment as full surgeon to the hospital, though the value of this testimony is, perhaps, somewhat diminished by the mistake his Lordship evidently makes of thinking that my promotion would make any change in the nature of either my duties or my relation to my patients.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Grosvenor-street, May 1st, 1872.

B. E. BRODHURST.

THE University of Strasburg was opened with great pomp on May-day.