



## AMERICAN ORTHOPEDIC INSTITUTE.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

THIS institution is in Roxbury, Mass., a little more than a mile from Boston, in one of the most beautiful and healthy locations in New England. It is capable of accommodating two hundred patients. There are connected with it a gymnasium, a bathing establishment, and ample grounds for exercise in the open air; while it is perfectly free from the contaminating influence of a dense population.

At this institution the following diseases of the joints, muscles and nervous system are treated, viz., curvatures of the spine, spinal irritation, contraction of the muscles, total or partial paralysis, false ankylosis, and club feet.

Many of these diseases, especially curvatures of the spine, cannot be successfully treated in private families, which experience in numberless cases fully confirms.

Dr. Abbe has recently visited some of the most celebrated orthopedic institutions in Europe, and has adopted all that he considers practically useful. He would acknowledge his great obligations particularly to M. Guérin and M. Bouvier.

The domestic arrangements of the institution are under the care of a matron of unquestionable qualifications for the station. Patients affected with diseases of the spine are for the most part young, and often desirous of prosecuting their studies; for this purpose, as the course of treatment will not prohibit, a teacher is connected with the establishment, who will give instruction in music, drawing, French, and the various English branches.

During the year 1847 one hundred and thirty-nine cases were under treatment. Of these, Jan. 1st, 1848, there were remaining, of posterior curvatures, 4 cases; lateral, 4; spinal irritation, 3; partial paralysis, 2; diseased brain, 1; club foot, 1.

At this season of the year (January) there is usually a much smaller number of patients than at other seasons, from the fact that those suffering from chronic affections seldom leave home at such a time to place themselves under treatment, unless the constitutional disturbances are urgent.

ALANSON ABBE, M.D.

## CASE OF CYANOSIS, OR BLUE SKIN.

*To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.*

DEAR SIR,—The subject of the case in question was the *sixth child*, who died at an early age, in the *same family*, from nearly the same symptoms. The first five patients were not mine; indeed, I did not see them, but the mother, who is an intelligent lady, informed me that there was a striking similitude of phenomena exhibited in all her children; and from the first, she was confident that her child (my patient) could not survive, for the others had been treated by skilful and experienced