

by the marks on the calculus in Howman's case, that he had only grasped the anterior part of it in his endeavours to remove it with the forceps. In fact, it so completely filled the urethra, that he had not been able to pass one blade between it and the parietes of the canal. With regard to the future progress of the case, he had no doubt that it would do well, but the wound would be tedious in healing.

March 31. The child has got measles, which are prevalent in the hospital. Urine flows both ways.

April 4. Desquamation taking place; prepuce oedematous; all the urine comes by the wound.

8. The nurse showed some urine which she had saved: it presents a muco-purulent deposit, and comes entirely by the wound. One ounce of decoction of pariera brava three times a-day.

10. Urine clear; prepuce less oedematous. The nurse states that one-third of the urine comes by the natural passage. Child has irritable bowels and aphthæ on the tongue. Two grains of mercury with chalk twice a-day. A mixture of borax and honey to be frequently applied to the mouth. Continue the decoction.

17. Aphthæ have disappeared; urine continues clear. Omit the decoction, and the mercury with chalk.

19. A collection of matter has formed in the right groin: it was evacuated to-day. The child has meat.

22. Does not hold his water; wets his bed. Repeat the decoction, with a drachm of vinum ferri in each dose.

26. Holds his urine; does not wet the bed: water flows chiefly by the end of the penis.

29. Nearly the whole of the urine comes by the urethra.

May 1. A small compress of lint placed on the wound at the back of the scrotum, and retained there by strapping.

3. Not a drop of urine now passes by the opening that existed in the scrotum, which on the

8th, was quite healed, and the patient was discharged.

of the derivation of the human race from more than a single pair; and, therefore, till more potent reasons can be adduced in favour of the contrary opinion, I will still think the same.

At the same time I utterly disclaim having had any wish to pervert the Scriptures, much less to contradict them, as seems to be inferred. As I have long been persuaded of their verity and divine origin from the clearest conviction, my sole object in writing the paper referred to has been the discovery of truth; in the search for which I have not taken for granted the assertions of others, but have taken the liberty to examine for myself, being convinced that it would be better to "wander in doubt than to remain in error."

I consider the supposition of mankind being derived from more than a single pair, is as probable (even from the scriptural account of their creation) as the contrary opinion, and certainly more consistent with the moral government of the Deity.

I apprehend no person will deny that climate exerts some influence in determining the distinctive characters presented by the several divisions of mankind; but I do not consider its influence sufficiently powerful to produce those wide differences that distinguish them.

The Jews of Malabar have, undoubtedly, been changed in colour through the influence of climate. But it is only in this one particular that they differ from the Jews of other countries. Though they have been exposed for ages to the same physical agents, they can yet readily be distinguished from the natives which surround them; in fact, they are still Jews, and present, with the exception of colour, the same physical conformation. Education and custom may, perhaps, have had some share in preserving and forming these distinctions; but I doubt much if the Jews of Malabar would ever present such a physical conformation, as to make it impossible to distinguish them from the natives, even if they were reduced to the same standard of mental capacity, and used the same customs, &c. The gipsies, also, present the same characteristics which distinguish them in all climates; and residence in a particular country for ages has never altered their conformation so much as to confound them with the natives of that country. I consider that such prominent distinguishing features in the physical constitution of the varieties of mankind, can only be wholly removed by intermarriages between the different races.

That such an event as another creation subsequent to that of Adam and Eve should be *inferred* to be too important to be omitted in the scriptural narrative, is a mere supposition. We may just as reasonably suppose that the prior formation of Adam and Eve rendered the secondary creation of one or

REMARKS ON THE ORIGIN OF THE DIFFERENT RACES OF MANKIND.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR:—I submit with deference the following remarks for the consideration of those gentlemen who favoured me with their notice in THE LANCET for the 14th inst.

The arguments there advanced, though ingenious, have not disproved (in my opinion) a single position which I advanced in favour

more pair of comparatively little importance as an historical event. Cain's supposed power of foreseeing the future increase in the population of the world is very ingenious; but it is altogether a gratuitous inference, at least equally as much so as the opinion I have advanced respecting the world being inhabited at that period.

I pass over the objection of the duration of man's life during the patriarchal ages, as I consider it bears very little relation to the present question.

But even if we admit that the five hundred millions of the human race now existing were derived from a single pair (without reference to the millions who have "returned to the dust from whence they were taken"), the immorality attendant on this method of peopling the world is not satisfactorily explained by either of my critics. Because Abram says he has married his sister, that is no reason (even if sanctioned in this case by the Deity) for inferring that the Deity used this means for filling the world with inhabitants.

The flood, even if we grant that it covered the whole earth (which is probably not the case), can form no argument hostile to my premises, till my opponents can ascertain with certainty that the *wives* of Noah and his sons were descended from Adam. I believe the Scriptures are silent on this point; and, therefore, for what we know of the matter, might have had different progenitors. I do not disagree with "*Veritas*" in supposing the *whole* of the Mosaic narrative allegorical; and I certainly have not found so many contradictory passages in this part of scripture as he asserts to have discovered.

I feel duly grateful to my *Greek* antagonist for his officious counsel, and regret much I have not been able to take advantage of it, as I had pursued my studies somewhat beyond the seventh chapter of Genesis ere I possibly could receive the benefit of it. But it was rather remarkable that I met with no such deluge of opposing truths, as my obliging friend so encouragingly points out. I trust, however, he will oblige me so far as to resume his studies by again perusing the first seven chapters of Genesis, when I trust his researches will be rewarded by the discovery of a satisfactory reply to the following query: Does the Mosaic narrative inform us that the *wives* of Noah and his sons were descended from Adam?

I must add, that my time being at present much occupied with subjects more strictly professional, I decline further controversy on this interesting topic.

The end of my speculations will have been fully answered if they ever be the cause of eliciting a single truth, or removing a single error, either confirmatory of their verity or falsity.

ALEXANDER BLYTH.

Chatham, August 16, 1841.

FUNGUS HÆMATODES, AND ITS CAUSE.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR:—If the following case, which I have recently attended, with Mr. Bateman, of Islington, possesses sufficient interest for publication in your Journal, I shall feel obliged by your inserting it. I am your obedient servant,

THOMAS ABRAHAM, M.R.C.S.L.

49, Old Broad-street, Aug. 21, 1841.

A young lady, aged twenty, in the autumn of last year, hurt her knee-joint by a fall, but did not feel much of it at the time, and continued to walk without much inconvenience for about six weeks afterwards, when the joint became very painful on being moved or pressed upon. It gradually enlarged all round, but was not discoloured. Darting and lancinating pains were at length felt in the joint, and the lower half of the femur, which much harassed and distressed her day and night. In this state I found her on the 15th of January last, when requested to attend the case with Mr. Bateman, who had been previously assisted by Sir Benjamin Brodie.

It is not my intention to occupy your space in detailing the treatment; suffice it to say, that the pains were mitigated in a few days, but every attempt to cure or suspend the progress of the disease proved useless. The swelling on each side, and in front of the joint, daily increased, presenting a soft and elastic feel, with an obscure sense of fluctuation. Mr. Bateman and I now considered that, as the disease was progressing, but confined to the limb, and the patient's health rapidly giving way, amputation was the only means of checking it; in this opinion we were afterwards corroborated by Sir B. Brodie.

On the 27th of February amputation was performed at about two-thirds up the femur, this being rendered necessary by the extensive disease of that bone. On laying open the joint after amputation, a large hæmatoid tumour, or substance resembling coagulated blood, intersected by cellular strata, was found in it, and the lower half of the femur carious, in which most probably the tumour originated. In about two months the stump was healed, and the patient gradually improved in health, so as to be able for a few weeks to take carriage exercise, and visit her friends. In the beginning of July, however, she was very ill, and it was discovered that effusion into the left side of the chest had taken place. On the 8th instant she expired.

A post-mortem examination having been permitted by her relatives, any doubt that may previously have been entertained as to the nature of the complaint was set at