

Stages of Life—The Dual Nature—Two Governments of the Body—Home Rule and Imperialism—The Perpetual Workman—Health and Ill-health—Four Temperaments—Violent Deaths—Preventible Diseases—Length of Days—The Laureate's Laws of Health—Conclusion.

LECTURE IV.—“Nerves in Order and Disorder.”
Syllabus :—White Nerves—Pink Nerves—Nerve Currents—Nerve Centres—Action of Nerves—Volition—Reflex Action, Gain and Loss—Effects of Habits—Power of Mind over Body—Functional and Organic Disorders—Brain Balance—Hysteria—Nerve Storms—Nervousness—Physical Results—Mental Results—Over Strain—Idleness—Rational and Irrational Treatment—The New Therapeutics—Mental Drugs—Prevention and Cure.

I HAVE hitherto most carefully avoided saying anything respecting the St. John's Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, as I considered that until some “responsible official utterance” of the exact position of affairs at this Institution was made, it would be quite an unfair thing to offer any opinion any way upon it, and I extremely regret to see that certain lay journals have thought it consistent with their duties and journalistic etiquette to allude to and make assertions which do not in reality seem to have had ground-work.

THE Duke of Newcastle, whom everybody respects as a thorough man of business, and as an individual most unlikely to make statements without knowing their exact value and importance, has just issued the following circular :—

“The efforts to wreck St. John's Hospital, wantonly commenced upwards of two years ago, and malignantly persisted in, poisoned the minds of some of the managers of the Hospital Saturday Fund against the Hospital. This body, however, with a candour redounding to their honour, instead of excluding the Hospital from participation in their distribution of the moneys collected for the Hospitals, conceived the desire to have for themselves an independent investigation of the books and accounts of the Hospital. This action was hailed with much satisfaction by the Hospital Board, who unanimously passed a resolution placing all the books and documents at the disposition of the Saturday Fund and for the purposes of the investigation. The firm of public accountants selected was Messrs. W. H. Pannell and Co. In cheerfully and unreservedly submitting to the investigation the board were actuated by two motives—the desire to have once and for all removed from the Hospital the air of suspicion which the action of its traducers had certainly surrounded it with, and the knowledge that the body proposing to make the investigation was a recognised public one, and not a clique who but sought the ruin of the Hospital. The investigation commenced on December 11, and their report was brought before the Hospital Saturday Fund for consideration on the 11th inst., at a meeting presided over by Alderman Sir James Whitehead, Bart., at which upwards of

forty members were present, and after an exhaustive debate, a grant of £59 16s. was voted by a large majority to the Hospital. The result was received with enthusiastic applause, for throughout the discussion no one had ventured to utter a syllable against the Hospital as a relief-giving and good-doing charity; indeed there were those present who emphatically declared that the poor who suffered from diseases of the skin could not possibly do without St. John's Hospital.”

Which for ever should, I think, put an end to the reckless innuendoes indulged in by the aforesaid lay press. The St. John's Hospital authorities will, however, do well in the future to prevent anything which can be possibly construed into mismanagement, and meanwhile I congratulate it upon its vindication and acquittal. S. G.

WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

THE LADY ARTIST.

THE well-known quotation, “The poet is born, not made,” is even more true of the sister art of painting. It is intuitive. Yet is it equally true that training—good training especially—is necessary, for though it is not in the power of man to bestow the germ of artistic life, still it can be developed and encouraged by fostering care, or crushed and murdered by the iron foot of circumstance, for it is only in the case of a few geniuses that the burning power within has overcome even circumstances. There have been lady artists ever since the days of stiffly curled, pale-faced Angelina Kaufmann, and as we write many an honoured living name rises unsummoned to our minds—Rosa Bonheur, Lady Butler, Mrs. Alma Tadema, &c. Even if not endowed with genius, yet any artistic talent should be encouraged, educated. For this end the celebrated School of Art, South Kensington, is by far the best school. There are branches in most large towns in the United Kingdom, also in the Metropolis and its neighbouring suburbs. I subjoin a list of the Metropolitan branches :—St. Martin's-in-the-fields, Castle Street, Long Acre; St. Thomas Charterhouse, Goswell Road; 155, Great Titchfield Street, Oxford Street; Royal Architectural Museum, Westminster; the Female School of Art, 43, Queen Square, Bloomsbury; Barnsbury Hall, Islington. In these schools all subjects are taught—“freehand, architectural, and mechanical drawing, practical geometry, perspective, painting in oil, tempora, and water colours, modelling, moulding, cast.” Besides these, classes for figure drawing from life and from the antique, and also for anatomy. The fees differ according to number of lessons received, and also as to whether the classes are held morning or evening. The latter at S. Kensington itself and at some of the branches are remarkably moderate, being only £1 per

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