

considered the subject worthy of its serious consideration. On Tuesday last Dr. Richardson met the committee of the Society by appointment, and after demonstrating local anæsthesia and performing experiments on himself, Dr. Sedgwick, and Dr. Fraser, proceeded to read a report on the operations which had been painlessly conducted on the horse and on other of the inferior animals. The operations of nerving, of firing, of removing tumours, of castration, and applying caustics to open and irritable surfaces, were all, the author showed, easily and readily performed under local anæsthesia; indeed, he maintained that if the members of the community demand it, every animal so valuable to man as to be considered the proper subject for a Surgical operation may now be subjected to such operation without any physical suffering. A very interesting point was also brought forward by Dr. Richardson, having reference to the degrees of common sensibility possessed by different animals, as shown by the readiness with which their sensibility was capable of extinction on one uniform process of experiment. It was explained that no two animals possess the same degree of sensibility, and that no animal has so distinct and high a degree of sensibility as man. After man, the horse, amongst the domestic animals, is most endowed, and after the horse, the dog and the guinea pig. Rabbits have a low sensibility. Descending to animals much lower in the scale of creation—viz., to frogs and leeches—the diminution of sense power is so marked that hardly a comparison can be instituted between them and man. Professor Tuson, of the Royal Veterinary College, having been called upon by the chairman, gave striking and valuable corroborative evidence of the complete success of the local anæsthetic process in cases of firing. He had seen as many as forty lines cut in the leg of the horse with the actual cautery, without any indication of pain. He believed that in veterinary Surgery the use of the ether spray was not only a means of preventing pain, but an economy to the operator.

—*Medical Times and Gazette.*

---

## MEDICAL NEWS.

---

### DEATH OF PROFESSOR GOODSIR.

THIS very eminent anatomist, who for a number of years has filled the chair of Professor of Anatomy in the University of Edinburgh, at the early age of 52 years, expired on the 10th of March, after a somewhat tedious illness. Twelve years ago his health gave way under the closeness of his application, and from that time till he expired he