

large incisions into the joint. I do not think any one would wish to pass a man who, when he was asked, "what would you do if, after delivery, a woman had her breasts unpleasantly full of milk?" would answer, "I would pass a trocar into the breast." Then, in examination upon medicine, I cannot pass a man who cannot diagnose a single case of phthisis, or who, when he is taken to the bedside, and there is a board at the head of the bed with the name of the disease upon it, "aneurism of the aorta," with bulging pulsation, shrill and loud murmur, who knows it is a case of aneurism of the aorta, who takes twenty minutes to examine the case, and half an hour to write down what he can tell about it, and cannot put down a single symptom or sign of aneurism of the aorta; nor can I pass a man conscientiously, as a man well up in the practice of medicine—a man who has been two years at a London School of medicine and one year at a Scotch School—who tells me that all that time he has never once heard that the term "scabies" is applied to the disease called the itch. Then, sir, to cite some few more instances in what we call natural history: (and here I should have liked to have passed these papers to Dr. Christison. I will not do so; but I know that on these points he will feel particularly interested, for I know that for years Dr. Christison has in his lectures most properly called attention to the subject; and I must say the Edinburgh men have always given correct answers on these points, and in consequence have directed particular attention to the article of diet. And I am sure there can be no more important subject for the study of the medical student than digestion and diet, in these days when every man in the country is talking about diet, and knows a great deal upon the subject:)—here is an answer given by an Englishman, not a Scotchman; a man at a first-rate London school; a man who had passed his examinations as a surgeon and apothecary. The question is this: "Mention the principal heads under which alimentary substances may be arranged, and give one or two instances of each?" Nothing can be more simple: it is a question that is put in class examination. I will read the answer of this gentleman, who, I need not say, did not pass into the army:—"The division is into the nitrogenous and the non-nitrogenous aliments: these may be subdivided into albuminous, fibrous, caseous, and gaseous. An example of the nitrogenous is, all vegetables; of the non-nitrogenous, all meats, including carnivora"—carnivora being wrongly spelt. "Of the subdivision albuminous, perhaps the most common example is the hen's egg; of the fibrous, the meat of the ox or sheep. Veal and pork, I believe, do not contain so much fibrin. Of the caseous, milk and cheese; of the gaseous, soda water."