

## EDITORIAL SUMMARY.

*Sudden whitening of the hair from terror.*—A correspondent of the *Medical Times and Gazette* having asked for authentic instances of hair becoming grey within the space of one night, Mr. D. P. Parry, Staff-Surgeon at Aldershot, writes the following very remarkable account of a case of which he says he made memoranda shortly after the occurrence: "On February 19th, 1858, the column under General Franks, in the south of Oude, was engaged with a rebel force at the village of Chamda, and several prisoners were taken; one of them a Sepoy of the Bengal army, was brought before the authorities for examination, and I being present had an opportunity of watching from the commencement the fact I am about to record. Divested of his uniform, and stripped completely naked, he was surrounded by the soldiers, and then first apparently became alive to the dangers of his position; he trembled violently, intense horror and despair were depicted in his countenance, and although he answered the questions addressed to him, he seemed almost stupified with fear; while actually under observation, within the space of half an hour, his hair became grey on every portion of his head, it having been when first seen by us the glossy jet black of the Bengalee, aged about twenty-four. The attention of the bystanders was first attracted by the sergeant, whose prisoner he was, exclaiming, 'He is turning grey,' and I with several other persons watched its progress. Gradually but decidedly the change went on, and a uniform greyish colour was completed within the period above named."—*Med. Chir. Review.*

*Increasing Insanity in England.*—This melancholy affection seems to be on the increase in the Eastern counties of England. In the six years between 1854 and 1860 the statistics of the Essex County Lunatic Asylum shew an increase of from 307 to 447 inmates. The reason of this fearful condition does not appear to be satisfactorily accounted for.

*Spina Bifida successfully operated upon.*—Mr. Gejon related to the Surgical Society of Paris a case of this description. He saw the patient first when four years of age, and advised delay. He was brought to him again when fourteen years old, tall and healthy. The tumour was pediculated, of the size of the fist, and presented the other usual appearances. It was proposed to remove it rather than inject it; which was done by an ecraseur. The wound was brought together by twisted sutures, and the patient made a good recovery.

*The Paris Hospitals.*—In the Hospitals and Infirmeries of Paris, there are at present 7877 beds devoted to the treatment of patients—viz.: 5577 for medical and 2300 for surgical patients. The beds in the hospitals are thus distributed; Medical cases 3250; Surgical cases 1706; Accouchements 677; Diseases of the skin 933; Venereal diseases 612—total 7178. During 1859 there were treated in the Hospitals, 90,996 cases and in the Hospices 5086 cases making a total of 96082 cases.

*Chlorodyne.*—Late numbers of the London Medical Times contain warning letters from correspondents of the injurious effects from the administration of this quack medicine, for such it is in reality. Dr. Washbourne of Gloucester, states that he witnessed unconsciousness, if not insensibility, in a working man who had taken 40 minims, lasting for several hours; he has also witnessed extreme prostration follow its use in a case of Phthisis in a lady to whom he had administered it. The sun of fashion is now setting upon this much vaunted remedy, and that of caprice taking its place.

*Unwholesome meat.*—The sale of meat of this character appears to be prevalent in London, and Devonshire appears to be the county whence a very large proportion is sent to the metropolis.

*Representation of the Medical Profession in the Imperial Parliament.*—The recent death of Dr. Nobb, one of the members for Leicester leaves the profession with only one representative in parliament. He died suddenly in Malaga in his 62nd year.