

Lecture on Pneumatics, or the doctrine of Air. This lecture was well adapted to impart pleasing and valuable information. After giving some account of the Baconian Philosophy, as contrasted with the blundering and nonsense of the Aristotlean school, the lecturer imagined a young man attracted by science and enquiring for himself concerning the wonders of the Atmosphere. Following the progress of this disciple of nature, the lecturer proceeded step by step, developing and proving his science, in an agreeable and most satisfactory manner.

Oct. 31. Dr. Grigor continued on Pneumatics.

The two last mentioned lectures were rendered peculiarly interesting by the exhibition of various experiments with the air pump. Among which were the following: a glass cylinder—or tumbler-shaped glass—one end of which was enclosed, by a piece of bladder being strained and firmly tied over it, was placed under the air-pump receiver and exhausted. The bladder was forced by the pressure of the air, into a cup-shaped form; the receiver was removed, and a small incision was suddenly made in the bladder; the rushing of the air into the vacuum, occasioned a very loud startling report.—A tumbler of warm water was placed under the receiver, and violent ebullition followed the removal of the air.—A bladder nearly emptied of air, was introduced under the receiver, when the surrounding air was exhausted, the air in the bladder expanded so as to entirely fill it.—Pieces of silver money and feathers were dropped from a high, exhausted glass, when it was found that the light and heavy articles fell with equal force. A piece of cork same weight as a piece of lead were placed in a small balance under the receiver; in the absence of air, the cork weighed down the lead, in consequence of its greater bulk, which bulk made it weigh less when surrounded by the atmosphere.

The apparatus imported by the Institute will give additional value to lectures on practical science; and will increase the interest, and help to ensure the stability of this growing Institution, which promises to be a source of utility and respectability to Halifax and the Province at large.

VARIETIES, SCIENTIFIC, &c.

NOTES ON THE ENGLISH PEERAGE.—Duke of Norfolk. Bernard Edward Howard, born in 1765.

The Duke of Norfolk of James the Second's time was a staunch *Protestant*. "One day," says Burnet, "the King gave the Duke