

tarian members of this Association were not many. In the other case, chloroform obliterated the sense of pain, and the use of chloroform was now rarely omitted. The utility of vivisection had been strikingly proved in two classes of diseases—diabetes and epilepsy. The latter, frightful to witness, was yet more frightful to suffer—violence and danger for the moment, and dreariness of prospect for the future, and of the way to meet it vivisection had given us at last a hopeful, because a rational, foreshadowing. To diabetes—an equally terrible if less shocking malady—the applicability of vivisectional results was even more direct than in reference to epilepsy, thanks to the studies of Dr. Pavy. He would just say further, that, when vivisection was being denounced as causing pain and suffering in a world already so full of both, it would be well to consider that, in this question, as well as in all other human questions, we had to deal with complex considerations, and to weigh them one against the other. Absolute certainty was not looked for in morals, absolute demonstration was not given us in religious questions, and absolute freedom from evil was not given to us in any course of practical action we adopt. Vivisection produces a certain amount of pain; but is this pain voluntarily and of deliberate purpose produced in a few laboratories, greater in amount, in intensity, in duration, than the mental pain, moral distress, and bodily agony endured in many a cottage, many a palace, by the victims of the very two diseases which, in these last years, vivisection has most assisted medicine to combat? He felt it to be his duty to make this apology for vivisection. Having done so he passed on to the subject of structural anatomy, and specified the names of numerous writers upon it—both English and Continental. He next dwelt upon the professional and popular advantages of physiological study, and of a biological training;—observing that a thorough scientific training tends, necessarily, to engender modesty and distrust of one's self. He believed he had the authority of their own elder Stephenson for saying that to worldly success there is no gift so necessary as the gift of something quite different. The bar, the senate, and the hustings delight in verbal antithesis, sharp distinctions, and sweeping assertions, which nature abhors. She knows little of antithesis—she works by gradations; and he who has studied her truthfully knows that the universality of assertion is generally in the inverse ratio of knowledge. For success, then, in the brilliant