

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

May 16. Dr. Grigor delivered a Lecture on ANATOMY. The Lecturer dwelt on the wonders of muscular motion; distinguishing those muscles which are subject to the will, and those which generally are not; in proof of the power of habit, in this respect, he mentioned a case, in which an individual controuled the action of his heart at will. The variety of muscular action, in gestures, and in speech, were noticed; and to the latter were ascribed the deviation from universal language, and the formation of new dialects and tongues. The existence and wisdom of a Deity, as proved by the human frame, were alluded to; and some interesting galvanic experiments were described. The lecture was illustrated by a model of the *human frame*, by statues of Venus and Mercury to show the difference between the male and female figure, and by large engravings of the muscles and joints.—During the Conversation it was remarked, that the ancient standard of female beauty, is a satire on the modern square shoulders and narrow waists of fashionable figures.

23. Being the day on which a general fast was observed, there was no meeting of the Institute.

30. The Lecture named for this evening was Astronomy; but on the lecturer declining to appear, the President read a paper on Education. In this, defects of the usual methods of Education were pointed out, and History was dwelt on as a foundation for general learning.

Although the attendance on the Lectures is not so full as during its first quarter, yet those who attend seem deeply interested in the subjects under consideration, and make frequent acknowledgments of the good which they have experienced from the course.

MONTHLY RECORD.

Great Britain. The Reform Bill passed a second reading in the House of Lords by a majority of nine. Popular feeling in favour of the measure is very strongly expressed by political Unions Societies of various kinds, and public meetings, in England and Scotland.