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## ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

ART. XXXII.—*On Injuries of the Intestines.* By W. MARSDEN, M.D., Governor of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, C.E.; Fellow Med. Soc., London; Fellow Medico-Bot. Soc., London, &c., &c.

The death of the ill-fated Robert Corrigan, who was killed on the 16th of October last, at the Cattle-Show, at St. Sylvester, where he was one of the judges, and the bootless trial of his murderers, has led to the following remarks on intestinal injuries generally, and his case in particular.

Dr. Charles Fremont, who alone, of the two medical witnesses examined before the Coroner's jury, is entitled to credit, said, that the cause of death was "rupture of the intestines, superinducing inflammation and destruction of the peritoneum, and that the rupture was not the effect of previous disease, but the consequence of recent injury."

Notwithstanding the extraordinary testimony of Dr. Reed† upon the trial, he concludes his evidence before the Coroner with these emphatic words:—"With respect to the rupture of the intestine it was necessarily a mortal wound, and no remedy or operation could have been employed to save deceased's life." His definition of "mortal," however, seems, like most of his testimony, to bear a questionable, and double interpretation; as in his attempt to mollify his evidence and palliate crime, he said, "mortal wounds are sometimes fatal," as his friend Kelly, the mur-

\* Testimony before Coroner, 23rd October, 1855, at Leeds, Megantic.

† This is the same person who enjoys the unenviable notoriety of having incited the first prosecution for *mala praxis* against a member of the Medical profession in Canada East. His victim, in the case of Harrison vs. Scott.—John O'Farrell, Esq., M.P.P., plaintiff's Attorney,—was Montague Scott, Esq., M.R.C.S.E., a most amiable and exemplary man, who, after being dragged through two actions of damages, and five or six terms of Queen's Bench, obtained a verdict with costs against the plaintiff after being nearly ruined in reputation as well as means.