

of subjects calculated to excite a lively and rational curiosity; and directed attention to some important facts seldom adverted to by those of us unacquainted with medical science. It reflects honor on the members of the medical profession resident amongst us, that out of four lectures delivered under the sanction of the Society, three were delivered by them. The lecture on Light, by Mr. DAINTRY, deserved the highest praise, both on considering the immense pains taken to get up the apparatus calculated to illustrate the subject, and for the minute and extensive elucidation given by the lecturer of the ingenious theory which he espouses. Not satisfied with explaining the peculiar nature of this theory, he proceeded at very considerable length to remove the objections brought against the view thus taken of the subject, and to show that all the advantages supposed to be served by the propagation of light in straight lines, are equally well obtained by the supposed undulations of a peculiar ethereal fluid of unlimited tenuity. Whatever conclusion may at length be come to respecting this curious question, the speculations now entertained concerning it, form an interesting portion of the history of science, and exhibit the human mind in one of its most difficult stages, struggling to step over a barrier which might almost seem to be impassable.

From the laudable exertions of some of its Members, the transition is natural to the Society's connexion with other associations of a similar nature in other parts of the world. Of these attention is obviously directed, first, to the Royal Academy of Lisbon, whose *Memoirs and History*, received this year, fill so conspicuous a place in our library. Though few of us have hitherto been able to read these volumes, it is not to be doubted, that much important information is yet to be obtained from them, whenever any of our Members shall have the perseverance and industry to extract it. To know that our labours are appreciated in this remote corner of the world, is some consolation to us in our difficulties, and an encouragement to proceed. This proof of the regard entertained for us in that ancient and illustrious, though now depressed nation, is the more pleasing, as it was altogether unexpected. Nor, to this hour, are we acquainted with the channel through which access has been opened for us to