

what we have before said, that statements like these are entirely gratuitous, and if he measures them by the rules before laid down he will also discover them to be purely chimerical.

XLII.—*The transactions of the American Medical Association.* Vol. 8. Pp. 760. Philadelphia: T. R. and P. G. Collins.

This is a goodly sized volume, containing papers of more than ordinary interest. It affords flattering evidence of the talent, energy, and industry of the American profession. The extensive diffusion of quackery, the thousand and one forms it has assumed, and its apparently flourishing condition in the United States, has sometimes made us doubt whether legitimate medicine could ever successfully resist the multifarious and deadly attacks to which it is subjected. So long, however, as there is a body of working, true-hearted men, such as comprise the American Medical Association, united together for the advancement of the science of medicine, and guided in their professional intercourse by the code of ethics of that body, we are convinced there is not the least danger to be dreaded from either the direct assaults of outsiders, or the more insidious undermining operations of seeming friends. The Association has our best wishes for its prosperity and continued usefulness.

The volume of transactions before us contains, besides the minutes of the Eighth Annual Meeting, the following reports and essays:—Report of the Committee of Publication; Report of the Treasurer; Address of Dr. Charles A. Poe, President of the Association; Report on the Diseases of Missouri and Iowa; Report of the Committee on the Hygrometrical State of the Atmosphere in various localities, and its influence on health; Deformities after Fractures; Report on the Diet of the Sick; the Pathology, Causes, Symptoms, and Treatment of Scrofula; Report of the Committee on the means of Preserving Milk, and on the influence of Pregnancy and Menstruation on the composition and nutritive qualities of that fluid; Report of the Committee on Dysentery; the effects of Alcoholic Liquors in Health and Disease; Sketch of the Caustic Pulverizer; PRIZE ESSAY—Statistics of Placenta Prævia; plan of organization of the American Medical Association; Officers of the Association for 1855; List of Permanent Members.

Dr. Hunt's investigations into the influence which hygrometrical conditions of the atmosphere have on health, are, we hope, the commencement of a series which will eventually enable us to form an approximate idea of the value of a high dew point in the production and spread