planted with shrubs and trees. The purifying effects of vegetation on the air are well known.

Connected with the cemeteries would be houses for the reception of the dead, and their proper and respectful care under superior and responsible officers. Thus the danger and nuisance of the retention of dead bodies would be avoided, without the revolting alternative of sending them to a parish bone-house or vault under the church. As long as human remains retain the human form, they should be treated with respect and affection. Mr. Chadwick gives a plan of the house for the reception of the dead at Frankfort, with the rules for its regulation, as well as the rules of the reception-house at Munich. These leave nothing to be desired as regards the respectful care of the dead, and the measures to be adopted in case of resuscitation.

The Rev. H. H. Milman has thrown out a practical suggestion which seems to be well worthy of adoption. Instead of a funeral procession through long, crowded streets—a costly, but unheeded, cavalcade for the rich—a wearisome march for the poor—let the dead be decently but quietly conveyed beforehand to the cemetery; there let the relations be assembled, and the procession be formed; the service concluded, let the mourners quietly return home. This modest, uncostly method we hope to see generally adopted.

It gives us sincere pleasure to notice Mr. Chadwick's anxiety, to secure to the uttermost the beneficial effects which the proper arrangement and sober decoration of cemeteries might produce on the minds of the people, as well as to secure the performance of the service of the church with music, and every other source of impressiveness and grandeur.

We must now take leave of Mr. Chadwick's report, trusting that we have enabled our readers to form some estimate of its plan and contents.

MR. ADDISON AND THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN MEDICAL REVIEW.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—In the last number of the "British and Foreign Medical Review," there is an article in which I find the following passage, alluding to my Researches, published in the "Transactions of the Medical and Surgical Association," Vol. XI. :—

"Some of these results, to which no doubt can be reasonably attached, are of great value; others, we fear, will not stand the test of further investigation, particularly with a microscope of qualities superior to that which we understand Mr. Addison to have been in the habit of employing. Knowing what differences of opinion are liable to occur, even among those possessed of the best instruments, we cannot be satisfied with conclusions based upon researches carried on with one of inferior quality."

Now, what the writer of this article knows of the

qualities of my microscope, I am at a loss to imagine; I do not believe he has ever seen it, and the reader is left to conjecture whether "the conclusions" are unsatisfactory to the reviewer, from the instrument showing too much or too little. Such vague remarks and objections, if they apply to one, must apply to the whole of my observations. They are aimed at the very root and foundation of all my facts; and, therefore, it is due to the council and members of our Association, who have been at the expense of publishing numerous plates, illustrating the observations upon which the conclusions are based, to notice this indefinite but sweeping objection from the unknown editorial *we*. In doing this, I shall take the two following extracts from my Researches :—

"After a short time the fibrine may be seen coagulating. Exceedingly delicate and perfectly cylindrical fibres or filaments, having a diameter even less than the molecules, first appear crossing the field of the microscope; they gradually increase in number, intersecting each other in various directions, and at length form a complete network." * * * On applying liquor potassæ to the colorless blood-corpuscles, "instantaneous changes occur in their interior, where numerous molecules and granules may frequently be seen in active motion. In a short time the corpuscles burst open or explode, and discharge ten, fifteen, or more molecules and granules, which either disappear quickly by dissolution in the alkali, or remain for a longer time visible, according to the strength or quantity of the alkali by which they have been acted on."

The molecules here alluded to have a diameter not exceeding the 1-100,000th of an inch, and the fibres of fibrine have one less than this, and yet both these observations were made with the microscope with which the reviewer is so dissatisfied. Now, if he can show that they are erroneous, I will unreservedly acknowledge that his objection is well founded, and that my conclusions must be given up, for the reason (which it is evident he wishes his readers to infer), viz., because the microscope I have used is not trustworthy; if he is not able to do this, then the inference which the readers of the Transactions will draw must be, that the remarks are erroneous and uncalled for, and that the microscope may be thoroughly depended on, having qualities sufficient to make apparent those things which have escaped detection by persons possessing instruments "of qualities superior."

A few months ago Powell and Lealand fitted one of their best one-eighth object-glasses, magnifying 750 diameters linear, to my microscope; this has enabled me to confirm the *bases* of all my published conclusions; nor have I, with this increased power, seen anything to lead me to alter a single statement, or to throw any doubt on my inferences. I make these remarks because the Association referred to has now printed a *second series of researches*, and has had additional illustrations engraved, which will be published in the forthcoming volume of their Transactions. Should these explanations meet the eye of Dr. Forbes, I trust he will call the attention of his influential *we* to them.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM ADDISON.

Great Malvern, Jan. 8, 1844.