Lastly, let the prayers of all good men be offered to Almighty God for HIS blessing and guidance in the final accomplishment of this magnificent project.

I submit to Mr. Martin and others, the following suggestions for the furtherance of the object:—

1st. To send an official letter to the Secretaries of the Clerical School, and also to the one established for the education of the sons of gentlemen of the Navy, requesting them, with a view to the formation of a kindred institute, for the sons of medical men, to supply copies of the rules, regulations, and plans adopted; also with the results of their experience as a guide to our starting.

2nd. That as soon as the probable expence per annum for each pupil can be ascertained, a circular be issued to each member of the Association, calling attention to the scheme, and requesting each member to make the matter known to their friends in the profession. Also further requesting to forward to the Provisional Committee the names of any children which may be proposed as pupils.

3rd. When this is done, the committee will be in a fair position to report the feeling of the profession on the subject, and active measures may then be taken for the establishment of the proposed institute.

4th. That each member be also requested to submit the locality of any building that may seem suited to the purpose; that such building must be approached pretty closely by some of the principal rail-roads which intersect the country; and that the building be such an one as may be capable of future enlargement.

5th. That, in all cases where the number of applications shall exceed the proposed number of admissions, preference will be given to the children of members of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association. I might add more, but there are doubtless wiser heads than mine capable of bringing this admirable project to maturity, and all I will say in conclusion is—God speed it.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

EDWARD DANIELL.

Newport Pagnel, August 10, 1844.

EFFECTS OF MALARIA UPON TEETOTALLERS.

By EDWIN MORRIS, Esq., Surgeon to the Dispensary,
Spalding, Lincolnshire.

When a man publishes to the world particular views of his own respecting a given subject, it is a duty he owes, when called upon, to state the facts from which he concludes that his opinion is superior or better than another's; if he fails to do this, the public will at once know what value to set upon the statement he has made, and will receive it with distrust; but when he has well considered the matter, and carefully analysed it prior to its publication, he fears not the taunts of the sceptical, or the bitter sarcasm of the reviewer, but will willingly point out to the disbelievers the facts which cause him to differ from themselves, and that there is no fallacy in the statement he has made. In a prior paper published in this Journal, I stated that malaria had a most powerful effect upon parties who abstained totally from stimulants. It has a very de-

pressing effect upon those who live well, and are of a full habit of body: it is not to be wondered at, therefore, that it should have a more injurious effect upon those who are essentially the reverse. I wish the observations I have made to be confined to the fenny districts of Lincolnshire, where malaria is so very prevalent. I came to the conclusion that teetotallers were more liable to be effected by malaria, from the repeated observation of the fact; and I contend it is from this alone, that we can come to any conclusive reasoning; that it has a more serious effect upon them is undeniable, and that it is also more liable in them to become typhus is equally as decided. This never was doubted by parties resident in these fenny districts, and who are fully acquainted with malaria in all its forms, and who are consequently quite capable of giving an opinion upon the subject; but there are gentlemen who reside in the healthier localities of England, where malaria is unknown, who are inclined to question the veracity of the statement I have made, and deny it altogether. Now if they would but take the trouble to visit our marshes, I would undertake to show to them a disease peculiar to this neighbourhood, and of which they are quite ignorant; and I would also point out to them the serious effect it has upon the population, and the horrible havoc it makes amongst the total abstinence party; but as this is impracticable I will relate a few cases to support my proposition.

John C., aged 22, a pledge-teetotalter, applied for medical aid, September 20th, 1843; he says he has been poorly for several weeks, has felt very weak, and has scarcely been able to walk about; complains of a bitter taste in the mouth, has a white and moist tongue, his countenance has a yellow cadaverous appearance, and for some time past his appetite has failed him; a purgative was given and afterwards a stimulant; two days afterwards typhoid symptoms came on, which raged with unmitigated violence until the 22nd of September, when he suddenly became comatose, and died.

John —, a groom, aged 24 years, has also taken the pledge; he has been in a debilitated state for weeks; he says this was not the case prior to his taking the pledge; he has great difficulty in attending to his work. I recommended him to take a little ale daily, but this he refuses to do; he thinks that if he has a little medicine he shall soon be better; a week elapsed before I heard from him again, when I was requested to visit him; I found him suffering from typhus; a few days afterwards he also became comatose, and died. I had an opportunity of examining this person after death; a great quantity of serum was contained in the ventricles of the brain.

Last summer, three Irishmen, who had come into the fens for the harvest, came to me for advice; they were suffering from malaria; they were teetotalters, and faithful to their pledge. I told them that unless they took better support, they would certainly have an attack of fever; as a medicinal agent, therefore, they took two pints of ale daily; in about ten days they were restored to their usual good health, and were fully satisfied that the fens of Lincolnshire was not the place for teetotalters to dwell in. The above are selected from cases which have come under my care. I have also made enquiry amongst my medical friends,

who all tell me that they themselves have observed the same facts, and fully agree with me in the remarks I have before stated on this subject.

I think the above cases are quite sufficient to convince all parties of the truth of my previous observations, and that they were not hypothetical. I am therefore inclined, and justified in coming to the conclusion, that persons who reside in these marshy districts, should not totally abstain from stimulants, for by so doing they render themselves more liable to an attack of fever, and greatly endanger their lives. I must confess that I am surprised that men of deserved eminence in our profession should step forward and totally condemn stimulants; why they do it, I know not, nor, I believe, do they; stimulants have been recommended in moderation from time immemorial. I would ask the question, what would the physician do without a stimulant? To wish totally to suppress the use of it because a few have suffered, is, I imagine, bad policy. Rather let each of us strive to impress upon the minds of all the beneficial effects of its moderate use, and its ruinous effects when taken in excess. Let us hear what a learned writer in the *Medical Times* says:—"If persons in such climates (*i.e.* hot climates) drink wine, spirits, or malt liquors, there is an excess of function in the whole nervous system incompatible with health, and the person soon wears out. But if, on the contrary, the air be damp and stagnant, and the soil level, the respiratory function is worse performed; there, the air doing less, the food is required to do more, and the stomach and digestive organs not being able to digest the food in sufficient quantity to supply the nerves, the latter are *empty* and *craving*, though the former is full. Here we have the strange phenomenon of a person eating heartily, perhaps too heartily, and still craving more; such a person complains of a "sinking" of the stomach, and is always relieved by good wine and brandy; provided that the digestive organs, and the liver in particular, are not previously injured by their use, this will be desired by all those who are influenced by 'total abstinence' doctrines, because, until very recently, we have been in the habit of viewing all food for one use only—namely, nutrition, overlooking in our philosophy the other great function in the animal machine—namely, the generation of the galvanoid force, which is to the body what steam is to the ship, or what gravity is to the earth as a planet." Now, there is some good sound reasoning in the above remarks. I hold the man that cannot reason to be a fool; he that will not is a bigot; and he that dare not is a slave. I am most desirous that my observations should not be misunderstood, or that any wrong interpretation should be given. For a long time I have paid particular attention to malarious diseases. I ascertained that malaria had a peculiar effect upon the population, and that it was more destructive amongst a class of people called teetotallers. I published the result of my observations, but not with the view of annoying, or with any vindictive feeling towards, the teetotallers, but with the idea that, if my statement was confirmed by the experience of others, it would put parties in possession of a fact, that would make them hesitate before they adopted or recommended any dietetic rules, which would be prejudicial to health. No one can doubt for a moment the good effects, morally speaking, of teetotalism;

but if we find that it does in any way exert a baneful effect in certain localities, founded upon pathological facts, we should not hesitate to speak out, even if it retard for a time its progress in the higher and healthier districts of England.

Spalding, July 30th, 1844.

CASE OF VACCINIA AND VARIOLA OCCURRING TOGETHER, THE VARIOLA NOT MODIFIED.

By F. W. PITTOCK, Esq., Sellinge, near Ashford.

(Read at the Anniversary Meeting of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, Aug. 7, 1844.)

May 2nd, 1844. A. P., aged one month, was vaccinated in both arms.

May 8th. I examined the vesicles, and from their being in a forward state, I punctured one of them, and obtained an abundant supply of fluid lymph, with which I vaccinated six children on that day.

May 9th. Early in the morning, the child was attacked with violent febrile symptoms, the countenance became flushed and anxious, the breathing quick and hurried. In the evening vomiting ensued.

May 10th. The chest and body were suffused with an intense redness, which in the evening seemed converted into innumerable papulæ; the mucous membrane of the fauces and throat was also as thickly studded.

May 11th. The papulæ were more prominent; in some parts they were well defined vesicles, in other parts they were conglomerated together. The constitutional symptoms increased in severity, and the child died on the 12th of May.

Under the same roof, but in quite a distinct dwelling, at the time I vaccinated this infant, there was a case of small-pox, and the young woman, the subject of it, had nursed the child, (a circumstance I had not been aware of) previous to its being vaccinated. If I had waited my usual time, namely, until the same day of the following week, before I took lymph from the child, I should then have been aware of the suspicious symptoms which developed themselves, and should not have vaccinated from it. I afterwards reproached myself for not having been on my guard with respect to the particular circumstance of the vaccine vesicles, not being, as they usually are on the 6th day, small and imperfect, but on the contrary, being full and prominent, and giving almost a forced appearance, with the characteristic marks of the 7th day; the mother herself remarking how well her child had taken. Immediately the varioloid symptoms commenced, the vaccine vesicles appeared to recede, and the lymph to be absorbed; a distinct zone of healthy skin, for the space of a fourth of an inch, surrounding the vesicles over which the variola did not spread. I naturally felt somewhat anxious to know the result of the cases vaccinated from the child that died, nothing however particular occurred excepting that the children had febrile symptoms of a character more severe than ordinarily attends vaccinia, but still none decidedly varioloid, and the vesicles were all strongly developed, but passed through their usual stages well.

Upon examining the vesicles on the 8th of May, I did not suspect variola could possibly make its appearance, particularly as there was total absence of