

passes backwards beneath the cava, and, being joined by anastomoses from the spinal artery, form the commencement of a vessel which the author formerly described in the 'Medical Gazette' as the *subspinal vessel*. This vessel, extending along the under surface of the nervous cord, communicates directly, by short vessels, with the supra-spinal artery, and gives off, at certain distances from its under surface, several large vessels, which unite with others that convey the blood which has circulated through the abdominal segments, directly to the branchiæ, whence it is returned to the heart by many minute vessels that originate from the posterior internal part of each branchia, and, united into single trunks, pass around the sides of the segments to the valvular openings on the dorsal surface of the heart. In the tail of the Scorpion there is a direct vascular communication between the caudal artery and the subspinal vein, which, from the direction of the vessels, induces a belief that there is some peculiarity in the circulation of the blood in this part of the body. Besides these vessels, the author found an arterial trunk that originates from the commencement of the aorta as it descends into the thorax. This vessel passes backwards along the alimentary canal, to which it is distributed, and gives off branches to the liver.

This paper is accompanied by five drawings, illustrating the anatomical facts which are described in it.

The Society then adjourned over the Easter Recess to meet again on the 27th instant.

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In consequence of the lamented death of H. R. H. the Duke of Sussex, the Society did not resume their Meetings till the 11th of May.

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May 11, 1843.

The MARQUIS OF NORTHAMPTON, President, in the Chair.

George Basevi, Esq., and Colonel John Le Couteur, were balloted for, and duly elected into the Society.

Edward Speer, Esq., was also balloted for, but not elected into the Society.

The following papers were read, viz.—

1. "Variations de la Déclinaison et Intensité Horizontale magnétique observées à Milan pendant vingt-quatre heures consécutives le 22 et 23 Mars, et le 19 et 20 Avril 1843." Par F. Carlini, For. Mem. R.S.

2. "Note regarding the Observations of T. Wharton Jones, Esq., F.R.S., 'On the Blood Corpuseles.'" By Martin Barry, M.D., F.R.S. L. & E.

The author observes, that the structure of the blood-corpuscles can be accurately learned only by a careful investigation of their mode of origin, and by following them through all their changes in the capillary vessels, and especially in the capillary plexuses and dilatations, where all their stages of transition from the colourless to the red corpuscles may be seen. The filament which forms here and there in the corpuscles of coagulating blood he has shown to other persons, with Microscopes made by Ross and Powell. Dr. Barry denies that he meant certain general remarks in his paper, referring to more than twenty delineations of corpuscles from various animals, to apply exclusively to those of man.

3. A paper was also in part read, entitled, "Experiments on the Gas Voltaic Battery, with a view of ascertaining the rationale of its action, and on its application to Eudiometry." By William Robert Grove, Esq., M.A., F.R.S., &c.

The President informed the Meeting that the Council had voted the following Address of Condolence to Her Majesty the Queen, on the occasion of the demise of His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex:—

*"To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.*

"The humble Address of the President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society of London for improving Natural Knowledge.

"MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

"We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the President, Council, and Fellows of the Royal Society of London for improving Natural Knowledge, beg leave to approach Your Majesty with the expression of our heartfelt condolence on the loss which Your Majesty has sustained by the lamented death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex. In the expression of our sorrow we are sure that all Your Majesty's subjects must unite with us, when they regard the public and private virtues of His Royal Highness. We are bound to feel additional grief as a Society over which His Royal Highness had presided, and where he had uniformly shown the greatest zeal for the cause of knowledge, and the most amiable condescension and kindness to every cultivator of Physical Science."

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May 18, 1843.

The MARQUIS OF NORTHAMPTON, President, in the Chair.

James Tulloch, Esq., was balloted for, and duly elected into the Society.

1. The reading of a paper, entitled "Experiments on the Gas