THE RECENT MAGNETIC STORM.

Six,—The magnetic storm recently experienced has been stated by Mr. Preece to be the most violent on record; I therefore venture to think that the following description of some observations made at Cambridge during its progress may be interesting to your readers.

The phenomena were ushered in by two magnificent displays of the Aurora Borealis on the evening of Thursday, November 16th; one occurring between 4.30 and 6.30 P.M., and the other shortly before midnight. On the two following days (Friday and Saturday), nothing unusual, so far as I can discover, was experienced in the working of electrical apparatus at the Cavendish Laboratory; on the Saturday, the sun-spot was well seen, and attracted much attention, owing to its

On the Monday morning following, at about 11.30 A.M., the attention of several laboratory students was attracted by the anomalous behaviour of their galvanometers; the instruments being ordinary reflecting galvanometers on Sir William Thomson's well known pattern, with lamp and scale, it was noticed that the spot of light, instead of remaining at its zero-point when no current was passing through the instrument. keep wandering in an irregular manner over the scale Thomson's well known pattern, with lamp and scale, it was noticed that the spot of light, instead of remaining at its zero-point when no current was passing through the instrument, kept wandering in an irregular manner over the scale. As this was found to occur with all the galvanometers and magnetometers in use at the time, all the usual measurements were at once brought to a standstill, and the laboratory was closed as regards electrical work, except for a party who remained to watch the course of the storm. Two of the party were stationed by galvanometers, and the other two (including myself) watched the Kew magnetometer. As the controlling magnet of the one galvanometer (a) was left in key place throughout the experiment, and that of the other (h) was only withdrawn after a certain lapse of time, the observations of the three instruments are not strictly comparable throughout their whole extent; but it is interesting to note that the observations from the last mentioned instrument (h) agreed well with those of galvanometer (A), while the controlling magnet was left in position, and with those of the magnetometer after it was removed, a fact which theory would lead us to expect. The results were afterwards plotted as curves, with the deflections as ordinates, and the times as abscisse; the resulting curve was in each case a sinuous line, of great irregularity. The greatest change in direction of the earth's magnetic force, as estimated by the magnetometer, was at 12 hr. 6 min. P.M., at which time the position of the magnet differed from its mean position by 4'47.25''. (The corresponding deflection of galvanometer (A) was 1c' nearly.) The storm decreased in intensity till towards 2 P.M., when, as disturbance had almost cased, work was resumed as usual. On the afternoon of the following day (Tuesday), a renewal of disturbance took place; the direction of the needle of galvanometer (A) slowly altered through about 9' 273'', and then swung back through about 3' 46'. On the following morning, this had died away,

St. John's College, Cambridge, November 28th, 1832.

DR. ARTHUR (Dublin).—Two days after the death of the celebrated Dryden, his body was removed to the old College of Physicians in Warwick Lane; there it was embalmed, and lay in state for about a fortnight. There are many now living who remember the old building, and the "gilded pill" immortalised by Sir Samuel Garth in his Dispensary, Canto 1, who, writing of the College, says—

"A dome, majestic to the sight,
And sumptuous arches bear its oval height;
A golden globe, plac'd high with artful skill,
Seems, to the distant sight, a gilded pill."

WARMING BEDROOMS

Sir,—Would your correspondent who recommended Roberts's terra cotta stoves for bedrooms kindly say where they can be bought, for I have asked in vain.—Yours INQUIRER.

INDIA RUBBER BANDAGES.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Luscombe's inquiry as to the cause of the irritation during the use of "Martin's India-rubber Bandages" by his patients, I wish to say that, in the few cases in which I have used them, I have been most satisfied with the results, but I do not think I should unless I had followed the minute instructions results, but I do not think I should unless I had followed the minute instructions given by Dr. Martin in his little pamphlet on the subject. They were as follows.

1. On taking off the bandage at night, to sponge carefully in cold water both sides of the bandage; then dry with a cloth, and hang the bandage lightly over a cord or chair-back, ready to roll in the morning.

2. To put the bandage on before getting out of bed.

3. On no account to put dressings, of any description, under the bandage. Ulcers, excornations, etc., to be covered all alke by the bandage.

4. And at night, on removal, after going to bed, to place a piece of lint, moistened with carbolic oil, over the ulcer, and apply a common calico-bandage. In the morning, remove the calico-bandage and lint, and carefully wipe away any oil that may remain about the ulcer, as in time it would damage the "Martin Bandage".

Bandage".

If Mr. Luscombe instructs his patients to follow out these rules, I believe he If Mr. Luscombe instructs his patients to follow out these rules, I believe he will find the irritation disappear. One patient of mine, an old woman, had a troublesome ulcer on each leg. They had resisted every form of treatment before, and she was almost a cripple. Her husband carefully carried out the instructions; and, in a few weeks, she was perfectly cured, and has remained so about four years. There was no irritation whatever about the skin, and she wears her bandages still. In another case, in which I knew, for a fact, that the rules were not kept to, I had some of the same difficulties that Mr. Luscombe mentions.

Dr. Martin is very particular that the bandage should be put on before rising from the recumbent posture. That it should only be put on moderately firm, so that, when the upright position is assumed, a little swelling of the leg takes place, and just sufficiently tightens the bandage, and prevents slipping; whereas, if the bandage be put on very firmly, when the patient begins to walk about it becomes unbearable, and he takes it off, and, perhaps, refuses to have it on again.—I am, sir, yours obediently,

Alfred Kebbell, M.R.C.S.Eng.

Flaxton, York, December 16th, 1882.

sir, yours obediently, Flaxton, York, December 16th, 1882.

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The Garden of Fragrance; being a complete Translation of the Bostán of Sádi from the Original Persian into English Verse. By G. S. Davie, M.D., Surgeon-Major, Army Medical Department. London: Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co. 1882.

Nerve-Vibration and Excitation as Agents in the Treatment of Functional Disorder and Organic Disease. By J. Mortimer Granville, M.D. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1883.

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Injuries of the Spine and Spinal Cord, without Apparent Mechanical Lesion and Nervous Shock, in their Surgical and Medico-Legal Aspects. By Herbert W. Page, M.A., M.C.Cantab. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1883.

Man before Metals. By N. Jolly, Professor at the Science Faculty of Toulouse; Correspondent of the Institute. With One Hundred and Forty-eight Illustrations. London: Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co. 1883.

Dublin University Press Series. The Medical Language of St. Luke a Proof, from Internal Evidence, that the Gospel according to St. Luke and the Acts of the Apostles were written by the same Persons and that the Writer was a Medical Man. By the Rev. W. Kirk Hobart, LL.D. Dublin: Hodges, Figgis, and Co. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1882.

Notes from Sick-Rooms. By Mrs. Leslie Stephen. London: Smith, Elder, and Co. 1883.

The Systematic Treatment of Nerve-Prostration and Hysteria. By W. S. Playfair, M.D., F.R.C.P., Professor of Obstetric Medicine in King's College; Physician for the Diseases of Women and Children to King's College Hospital; late President of the Obstetrical Society of London. London: Smith, Elder, and Co. 1883.

The Student's Handbook of Forensic Medicine and Medical Police. By H. Aubrey Husband, M.B., C.M., F.R.C.S.E., M.R.C.S., L.S.A. Fourth and revised Edition. Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone, 15, Teviot Place. London: Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. 1835.

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