

issue three sons, Edward William, Stanhope, and Martin. He died November 29, 1826, and was succeeded by the present peer, who was born July 15, 1799, and married, August 1, 1821, to Elizabeth Frances, second daughter of Sir John Ramsden, by whom he had no issue. She died August 26, 1824.

WINTER EVENING'S SONG.

Het oosten blaast, het wintert fel.

THE storm winds blow both sharp and sere,
The cold is bitter rude;
Thank heaven, with blazing coals and wood
We sit in comfort here!
The trees as whitest down are white,
The river hard as lead.
Sweet mistress! why this blank to night?
There's punch so warm, and wine so bright,
And sheltering roof and bread.

And if a friend should pass this way,
We give him flesh and fish;
And sometimes game adorns the dish,
It chances as it may;
And every birth-day festival
Some extra tarts appear,
An extra glass of wine for all—
While to the child, or great or small,
We drink the happy year.

Poor beggars! all the city thro'
That wander,—pity knows
That if it rains, or hails or snows,
No difference 'tis to you.
Your children's birthdays come, no thron'
Of friends approach your door,
'Tis a long suffering, sad as long;
No fire to warm—to cheer, no song—
No presents for the poor.

And should not we far better be,
We far more blest than they,
Our winter hearth is bright and gay,
Our wine cups full and free;
And we were wrought in finer mould
And made of purer clay.
God's holy eyes, that all behold,
Chose for our garments gems and gold,
And made *them* rags display.

I! better? O would 't were so,
I am perplexed in sooth;
I wish, I wish you'd speak the truth.
You do not speak it—no;
Who knows, I know not, but that vest
That's pieced and patched all thro',
May wrap a very honest breast,
Of evil purged—by good possest,
Generous and just, and true!

And can it be? Indeed it can,
That I so favoured stand;
And he, the offspring of God's hand,
A poor deserted man.
And then I sit to muse; I sit
The riddle to unravel;
I strain my thoughts, I tax my wit,
The less my thoughts can compass it,
The more they toil and travel.

And thus, and thus alone I see,
When pouring o'er and o'er,
That I can give unto the poor,
But not the poor to me;
That having more than I require,
That more I'm bound to spread,
Give from my hearth a spark of fire,
Drops from my cup, and feed desire
With morsels of my bread.

And thus I found, that scattering round
Blessings in mortal track,
The riddle ceased my brains to rack,
And my torn heart grew sound.
The storm winds blow both sharp and sere,
The cold is bitter rude;
Come beggar, come, our garments bear,
A portion of our dwelling share,
A morsel of our love.

List! boys and girls, the hour is late,
There's some one at the door;
Run, little ones, the man is poor—
Who first unlocks the gate?
What do I hear, run fast, run fast;
What do I hear so sad,
'Tis a poor mother in the blast,
Trembling, I heard her as she past,
And weeping o'er her lad.

I thank thee, Source of every bliss,
For every good I know;
I thank thee, thou didst train me so
To learn thy way in this:
That wishing good, and doing good,
Is labouring, Lord, with thee,
That charity is gratitude,
And piety, best understood,
A sweet humanity.

CURES BY YEAST.

SIR,—In the 'Mirror' of the 21st of October an article, headed "Important Medical Discovery," appeared, purporting to be an extract from a letter by Dr Cartwright. I fully agree with you as to the importance of the discovery, and should have troubled you with a few observations on the subject ere this had I not been absent from home for some time. Dr Cartwright has given a very circumstantial account of two cases of putrid fever having been cured by means of yeast, but does not appear to have been aware of the cause of yeast having such a beneficial effect. It may not therefore be uninteresting to give a little information on this point. Yeast contains and evolves naturally a very considerable portion of carbonic acid gas; and as this gas is a powerful anti-putrescent, it follows that if it can be applied in large quantities to a person in any kind of fever (which is the first stage towards decomposition or putridity) the fever or tendency towards putridity will be instantly arrested. When the yeast is taken internally, the natural heat of the body will cause it to give off the gas rapidly, which, by diffusing itself through the whole system, must speedily reduce inflammation and arrest the progress of the fever. Now although yeast

appears to have had the desired effect in the cases mentioned by Dr Cartwright, other cases might occur where it could not be so conveniently and effectually applied as in cases of local inflammation, ulcers, sores, &c. The medical profession have silently, and I might say, ignorantly, acknowledged the effect and utility of this gas, as they habitually prescribe for many diseases certain substances which contain it or its components in large quantities, such, for instance, as aerated waters and charcoal or yeast poultices for obstinate sores and ulcers; why not then employ the gas itself, as it may be easily and cheaply obtained and conveniently applied. A curious and interesting case lately came under my own observation, in which this gas effected a cure in a few days after the patient had been attended unsuccessfully by three medical men of considerable practice and celebrity, one of whom (a physician) stated that he considered the case an extremely critical one, and one which he did not expect to cure in less than a year. The case was this:—A lady was attacked by a very virulent cutaneous disorder, from which she experienced great pain. The disorder made its appearance on the thumb of one hand, in the form of a red spot or place about the size of a shilling; but little notice was taken of it at first, as it was thought to be merely a slight attack of crsipelas, and was treated accordingly. The place, however, gradually increased in size, and at last broke into an offensive and painful sore, and ultimately the disease spread over the whole hand, and was communicated to the other, which quickly became as bad as its fellow. Lotions and ointments were unsuccessfully tried, the patient all the while getting worse and worse, suffering unspeakable agony, and every appearance of the disease spreading to the legs and feet. I had in the meantime repeatedly urged the application of carbonic acid, in the form of gas, to the parts affected, but was met by a steady refusal, and an entire dependence upon medical skill. At last, however, pain and agony, and no prospect of relief, triumphed over prejudice, and I was requested to try what I could do, under the solemn assurance that my remedy could do no harm at any rate, even if it did no good. I then procured an apparatus which had been successfully employed in other cases. This apparatus consisted of a stone bottle or jar, holding about a gallon, and having two openings, one being closed by a bung, cork, or stopper. Into the other opening an upright brass tube was screwed, and on the upper end of this tube a flexible pipe was fastened, furnished with a stop cock, and to its other end a bullock's bladder was attached. When the apparatus was ready for use, the diseased part was placed in the

bladder and bound tightly round the wrist with a silk handkerchief to prevent the escape of gas, care being taken that the other junctions were also air-tight. The bung or stopper was then removed from the aperture, and about half or three quarters of a pound of sulphuric acid poured into the stone bottle, and from a quart to three pints of lukewarm water added thereto. Then finely-pounded marble dust or other carbonate of lime was dropped into the acid solution in the jar, about a table spoonful, taking care to close the aperture instantly; and immediately that the marble dust or other carbonate came into contact with the acid solution, carbonic acid gas was rapidly given off and ascended through the brass tube and flexible pipe into the bladder, whence it was taken up or absorbed by the hand of the patient. The lady was operated upon, as nearly as I can recollect, about ten or twelve times. The first application seemed to lull the pain, and after four or five times she was relieved from it altogether, and the sores began to present a healing appearance. The application of the gas being daily persevered in, the sores rapidly healed, and before the gas was disused, the patient could use both hands freely. A daughter of this lady was afterwards attacked with the same disease, but by having timely recourse to the same means of relief, was happily preserved from suffering much. The most convenient way of supplying the marble dust to the acid is to put it in thin paper cases, about the size and shape of cartridges. When the first supply of dust appears to have given off all its gas, add another cartridge, and keep adding from time to time until the strength of the acid is exhausted. Before putting the hand into the bladder, it is advisable to wash or moisten it in warm water, in order to open the pores of the skin. The external use of this gas, in the manner above explained, tends to lull the patient if restless, and repeated applications never fail to cure the worst and most obstinate ulcers. A gentleman who has paid considerable attention to the subject, and has effected many cures of various diseases, always gives his patients a good dose of the new milk of sulphur previous to operating upon them; but I do not know that this is always necessary, although in many cases it may be desirable. I am not in the medical profession, but the above cases, and many others, having come under my own observation, I can vouch for their accuracy, and shall be happy to communicate any further information on the subject. I enclose my card, and any assistance I can give to relieve any sufferer shall, if in my power, be most willingly afforded.

I am, sir, yours obediently,

W. E. N.