

8. Questions of race: are there races which are exempt from these maladies, or amongst whom the development of them is favoured by association? Is the admixture of different races a prophylactic means, or are there races which bastardize themselves by association?

"It is to be hoped," said Hirder, that illustrious friend of humanity, "that wherever men exist there will be found intelligent and happy beings—happy not only by their own reason, but by the general reunion of the intellectual lights of the whole human race." And as the history of cretinism shows us many localities where a generation full of life and intelligence has succeeded to the hideous and degraded types which these great evils create, this hope is no longer an illusion. In truth, experience has established that this malady, which ravages so many countries, is capable of being reduced to its sporadic form.

### APPOINTMENTS.

JOHN FORSTER, Esq., late Secretary to the Commissioners in Lunacy, has been appointed by the Lord Chancellor the new Commissioner in Lunacy, in the place of W. B. Procter, Esq., who has retired. This appointment gives universal satisfaction. The great prose writer is a fitting successor to the charming poet; but more than this, the intimate knowledge of all matters relating to lunacy, which the late Secretary to the Commissioners possesses, offers an unquestionable assurance that he will be thoroughly acquainted with his new duties. The promotion of the Secretary to the legal Commissioners appears to be establishing itself as a rule, and an excellent one it undoubtedly is.

MR. PROCTER verifies his own line, that—

"Leisure must by toil be bought,"

and takes with him into his well-earned retirement the sincere affection of all who have the happiness to know him personally, and the entire respect of all who know him only officially. All will concur in heartily wishing him the re-establishment of that health which has been much impaired by devotion to his public duties, and in hoping that he may long enjoy the repose of age, and of "all which should accompany" it—

"As honour, love, obedience, troops of friends,"

and which, in his case, does so fully accompany an age warmed by affections won by personal worth, and crowned by the bright chaplet of literary fame.

THE HONORABLE WILLIAM CECIL SPRING RICE has been appointed by the Lord Chancellor to succeed Mr. Forster as Secretary to the Commissioners in Lunacy.