

Journal, briefly to bring before the profession a method which I have successfully employed for many years. This I freely communicated to many of my professional brethren of this town, so soon as I had satisfied myself of its general efficacy; but as we still occasionally hear and read of infants dying in consequence of the application of leeches, I feel the importance of giving it a more extended publicity. The method is simple,—whenever a leech-bite bleeds profusely, and compression cannot be made, as over the neck, abdomen, &c., I wipe the cut quickly with a bit of lint, or fine linen, and while it is comparatively dry, seize a small portion of the integuments surrounding the bite with the finger and thumb of one hand, and between them continue to make a moderate, but not painful, pressure. If the child be restless and struggle I loose the hold, but instantly dry and seize the cut as before. One may be compelled to repeat this process three or four times, but ultimate success is certain. At every subsequent seizure, the hæmorrhage is seen to be more languid; and in a period varying from five to fifteen minutes, is completely suppressed. I may add, that the irritation attendant on leech-bites is not of more frequent occurrence after this pressure.

Necessity led me to this expedient upwards of twenty years ago. A delicate lady, with symptoms of peritonitis, had a number of leeches applied over the abdomen; all the bites ceased to bleed in good time, except three, which continued to pour out arterial coloured blood. I was sent for, used alum and the nitrate of silver, and thought I had suppressed the hæmorrhage, but was again called, and found that more blood had been lost than I intended or wished for. The lady was faint, and no time could be lost; I seized two of the bites in the manner described, and directed the nurse to take hold of the third, while I could procure the assistance of a friend, and consider what could be done further. Immediately afterwards it occurred to me, that if the same moderate pressure could be kept up for a time between the fingers, the bleeding would be suppressed. My anticipations were realized, and all my subsequent experience warrants me in recommending the same easy method for general adoption. I have never since been annoyed by leech-bite hæmorrhage, and do not hesitate to apply leeches in childrens' diseases over the neck, abdomen, or any other part where the integuments are loose, and can be pinched up, provided there be no morbid sensibility of the skin or subcutaneous tissue.

[Since we received the above most interesting and valuable communication of Dr. Marshall's, we had an opportunity of testing the method there recommended. A child, four years of age, had had a single leech applied about half an inch from the external angle of the eye. It bled so profusely and continuously for the twenty-four hours following, that upon application being made at the hospital, the child was quite blanched. Several methods having been tried in vain to stop the bleeding, we had recourse to the mode of pressure by pinching up the integument between the finger and thumb for about three minutes, and had the satisfaction of finding that it completely arrested the bleeding.—*Ed.*—*Dublin Quarterly Journal*.

## ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, EDINBURGH.

At the Annual Election Meeting of the Royal College of Physicians, held on the 3rd instant, the following gentlemen were elected office-bearers for the ensuing year:—Dr. Robert Christison, President; Dr. Wm. Beilby, Vice-President; Drs. John Thatcher and John G. M. Burt, Censors; Dr. Charles Ransford, Treasurer; Dr. David Craigie, Secretary; Dr. Wm. Seller, Librarian; Dr. Peter Fairbairn, Fiscal; Dr. James Stark, Keeper of the Museum; Mr. Kenneth Mackenzie, Clerk; Mr. John Small, Under Librarian; Robert Moffat, Officer; Dr. R. Christison, Dr. J. H. Davidson, Dr. Thos. Traill, Dr. Wm. Seller, Dr. George Paterson, Dr. John Moir, Dr. J. H. Bennet, Examiners of Foreign Graduates.

## ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

Members of the College admitted to the Fellowship by examination on Thursday, December 10th:—R. W. Bloxam, Isle of Wight; G. B. Childs, Fore Street, London; J. Jones, Judd Street, Brunswick Square; F. J. Toulmin, Upper Clapton.

Gentlemen admitted Members on Friday, Dec. 11th, 1846:—H. Haycraft; R. M. Craven; C. Palmer; G. Holland; H. Sutherin; W. H. Clarke; M. Francis; R. Allen; J. S. Beale; G. H. Edwards; C. R. Robinson; J. Kidd.

## SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES.

Gentlemen admitted Licentiates, Thursday, December 3rd:—William Ackland, Staplegrave, Somerset; Wm. Brown, Callington; John Harris, Northiam, Sussex.

## PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASSOCIATION.

### VOLUME OF TRANSACTIONS.

It is requested that Members of the Association, whose names, address, or designation, may be defective, or incorrectly inserted, in the printed list published with the last volume of "Transactions," will send the corrections which they wish to be made, as the list of members for the fifteenth volume, (the third of the new series,) is now going through the press.

ROBERT J. N. STREETEN, Secretary.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from Dr. Cotton; the Birmingham Pathological Society; the Sheffield Medical Society; Dr. Cullen; Dr. G. P. May; Dr. Ranking; Mr. Bancks.

If Mr. Johnston, of Dover Street, will refer to the *Provincial Journal* for November 25th, and December 2nd, he will see that the subject mentioned in his letter has already been fully noticed.

It is requested that all letters and communications be sent to Dr. Streeten, Foregate Street, Worcester. Parcels and books for review, may be addressed to the Editor of the *Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal*, care of Mr. Churchill, Princes Street, Soho,