

## TRISMUS NEONATORUM.

M. BOIRAU, a physician at the Isle of Bourbon, where this disease makes dreadful ravages amongst infants, observed that all those attacked by it presented marks of inflammation about the umbilicus. Considering it, therefore, as a species of traumatic tetanus, he recommended that the dressings should not be removed from the chord before the fifteenth day; and this practice was found to succeed in preventing the development of the disease.—*Ibid.*

## CURE OF TRAUMATIC TETANUS BY DIVISION OF THE NERVE.

CASE I.—M. Pecchioli says that he had already proposed this operation to a person affected with tetanus, who refused to consent, and died. Since then he had an opportunity of performing it on a young man labouring under traumatic tetanus, from a lacerated wound of the last joint of the great toe. The disease had existed about twenty-four hours. M. Pecchioli made an incision with a double-edged bistoury over the point where the internal saphenial nerve passes over the first cuneiform bone, and thus divided the parts down to the bone. Scarcely was the operation over when the pain of the foot and leg ceased; the spasms gradually diminished, and then ceased altogether.

CASE II.—Five months after this, a man, thirty years of age, was admitted into the same hospital, also labouring under tetanus, from a wound over the two first metatarsal bones. An incision about eight lines in length was made above the internal malleolus, and the saphenial nerve, with its accompanying vein, was divided. In this case, the pain and spasms did not cease so quickly as in the former, and it was thought that some nervous filaments had escaped; but on the second day the spasms were mitigated, and the man soon recovered.

[This practice is one well worthy of imitation in some cases of tetanus, although it is clear that division of the nerve will not always succeed, since even amputation frequently fails. The operation, however, is so trifling a one, in comparison to the danger of the disease, that it should be tried whenever there is the least probability that the affection may be connected with injury of a superficial nerve.]

## REMUNERATION OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—A decision of the under-sheriff, on the authority of Lord Wynford, given in the Sheriffs' Court, on Thursday, in the case of *Simpson v. Dismore*, and reported in the "Morning Chronicle" of Friday, July 9th, "that a surgeon cannot recover for attendance and medi-

cine both," seems to me to require confirmation, as it involves very materially the interests of those who, like myself, prefer making a fair additional charge for their services, when a very small quantity of medicine is required, to inundating their patient unnecessarily with draughts, pills, and potions.

The surgeon in this case charged 5*l.* 19*s.* for medicine, and 3*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* for surgical visits, the disease being a bad leg. The charge for medicine was granted, while that for surgical visits was refused. You will oblige me by information on this subject, that I may shape my course accordingly.

If our fellow-citizens will not allow us to be honest, they have themselves only to blame for having an apothecary's shop made of their bellies.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A SUBSCRIBER.

July 10, 1841.

[A member of the College of Surgeons can recover in surgical cases only and for attendance; but we believe that a general practitioner can recover for both medicine and visits.]

## NEW HOSPITAL.

THE Municipal Council of Paris has decided on the establishment of a new hospital in the northern part of Paris. It is to be called *Louis-Philippe's* Hospital; will contain six hundred beds, and is destined for the treatment of chronic diseases.

## COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

BRANSBY B. COOPER, Esq., has been elected Professor of Anatomy and Surgery to the Royal College of Surgeons, in place of F. Tyrrell, Esq., resigned.

## ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN LONDON.

*List of Gentlemen admitted Members on Friday, July 16, 1841.*—Joseph John Edward Porter, John Henderson, Eaton William Waters, James Philip Lawrence, Benjamin Blaine, Richard Austin, Rupert Pincott, John Scott, John Jeffree.

*Monday, July 19.*—David Kent Jones, John Coventry, John Philips Potter, John Innes, Joseph Jee, Edward Gregory, William Skinner, Thomas John Starling, William Reynold Deere Salmon, William Withey Gull, Daniel Wheeler.

Printed by THOMAS IBOTSON, of 105, St. Martin's Lane, in the Parish of St. Martin in the Fields, and GEORGE JOSIAH PALMER, of 20, Regent Square, in the Parish of St. Pancras, at their Office, No. 3, Savoy-street, Strand, in the Precinct of the Savoy; and published by JOHN WILLIAMS RUMSEY, at his Residence, No. 6, Wellington-street, Strand, in the Precinct of the Savoy.—Friday, July 30, 1841.