

last case, for several hours; the purgative enema again used, and the other remedies continued. In the intervals of the fomentations a poultice of linseed-meal mixed with laudanum and hot water was applied over the whole abdomen. Gradually the pulse gave way in strength, and as this proceeded, the articular pains began to relax in intensity, leaving one hand or foot for twelve or eighteen hours, and then returning with diminished amount, some other limb being then relieved. All this time the pained parts were maintained in a steady and high temperature by the oil-silk covering. The whole body perspired profusely; but this seldom brings substantial relief in rheumatic fever, in which the bowels or kidneys appear to be the chosen critical emunctories. This was exemplified in the present instance; for on the ninth day of the disease, the bowels pouring out large quantities of almost pure bile, the limbs were released from pain, as if the pressure of a tight hand had been removed from them, and the stiffness and numbness consequent on such constriction only left. In the meanwhile the acid character of the sweat and urine, of the former especially, had considerably altered. The urine was more copious, but still high colored and turbid. Short sleeps had been procured, probably by the endermic use of laudanum. The pulse, as well as the animal power, was immensely reduced; for the whole nutriment during the time consisted in rice and barley-water. And, as the diarrhoea came on, the amount of perspiration diminished. I need not add, that on the appearance of diarrhoea all medicine was discontinued. Although the tongue had become much cleaner, no small degree of morbid redness pervaded it. When this is the case, craving for food often seizes the patient, and if it be gratified with strong aliment, relapse into pain is almost sure to follow. Mindful of this, I kept the patient an entire fortnight on liquid farinaceous diet. The limbs were rubbed with a flesh-brush twice a day, and still detained in flannel covers, until the use of them was fully recovered; and the temperature of the room was regulated night and day. More or less gastric irritation continued for three weeks after the cessation of the rheumatism, and required constant care in regard to diet. There was also extension of this action to the mucous surface of the air-tubes—a frequent occurrence in rheumatic fever—and a loose cough troubled the patient for ten days. But as the stomach was more able to take animal food, and the general strength increased, this diminished. The subject of this case has had no further attacks of the kind; but she has taken especial care of her digestive organs since the last time.—*From Dr. Gully's Simple Treatment of Disease.*

#### AN ACCIDENTAL DEATH.

On Saturday last an inquest was held at the Ship and Anchor Inn, before W. Codd, Esq., coroner, and a respectable jury, on the body of an infant, aged nine months, which had died in its mother's arms. The mother, a German, stated that her name was Metscar, and that the child had been ill several days; that she came to Maldon on Tuesday evening, and went to Cornel's lodging-house, where, the child being ill, she stayed within all Wednesday, and on Thursday she took it to Mr. Fearnley, chemist, who gave her a powder

for it. On Friday morning she thought it appeared better, and she started off with it to go to Colchester to her husband; when she got as far as Heybridge she looked at the child, and found it was dead, on which she went back to the lodging-house. Mr. Fearnley stated that the woman appeared to be in great distress about the child when she brought it to him, and he believed the child died from natural causes. The jury returned a verdict to that effect, and said they did not consider that any blame attached to the mother.—*Chelmsford Chronicle.*

#### LONDON MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The ordinary weekly meetings of this society will be resumed on the 26th instant, when Mr. Pilcher will read a paper on the excito-motory functions.

#### OBITUARY.

On the 14th instant, Frederick Philpot, Esq., surgeon, late of Upper Southwick-street, Paddington.

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MATERIA MEDICA, &c.—Dr. Pereira, F.R.S.

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CLINICAL LECTURES—Dr. Gordon, F.R.S., Dr. A. Frampton, Mr. Scott, and Mr. Luke.

General Fee for the above Lectures, qualifying for the Hall and College, £50.

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