

TREATMENT OF VOLVULUS.

Mr. Pilcher has recorded a case of volvulus occurring in a child, in which all the remedies commonly employed for the removal of the disease had been unavailingly employed, when he was induced by the recollection of a former case to order thin gruel to be injected by the rectum until the lower intestines had become completely distended, regurgitation being prevented by pressure around the anus. The effect was almost immediate, the obstruction giving way and the patient completely recovering.

PRISON DIET.

The following extract is taken from a letter by Sir James Graham, addressed to the magistrates on the subject of prison dietary:—

"I desire to call the special attention of the magistracy to those rules which relate to the diet of prisoners. On the proper adjustment of this particular their health mainly depends; and I am convinced that the adoption of the proposed scales will prevent the recurrence of those complaints which have frequently been preferred, and in some instances justly preferred, against the prison authorities. It is by no means intended that the precise articles of food specified in the dietaries should be strictly adhered to in the table which you may adopt; other kinds of food, containing an equivalent amount of nutriment, may, with advantage, be substituted when those articles which have been named are either difficult to be obtained in your neighbourhood, or are considered not suited to the customs and habits of the prisoners; but that quantity of food must, in all cases, be given which is sufficient, though not more than sufficient, to maintain health and strength at a moderate cost; and, while due care should be exercised to prevent any approach to luxurious living in a prison, the diet ought on no account to be made an instrument of punishment. I have consulted, not only the prison inspectors, but medical men of the greatest eminence, possessing the advantage of long experience; I have carefully revised the dietaries now in use, and I have come to the conclusion—

1. That animal food should in all cases form part of the diet of prisoners employed at hard labor.
2. That a considerable portion of the food of every prisoner should be solid; and,
3. That there should be variety in the kinds of food forming the diet, and that occasional changes are necessary.

The dietaries which I now offer for your adoption are framed on these principles, and are upheld by medical science, and by the recommendation of persons on whose authority and knowledge reliance may be placed; but they have been framed without reference to the local situation of particular prisons, or to any peculiar circumstances which may render an increase necessary; they, are, therefore, proposed by

me as the *minimum* amount which can safely be afforded to prisoners without the risk of inflicting a punishment not contemplated by the law, and which it is unjust and cruel to inflict—namely, loss of health and strength through the inadequacy of the food supplied."

SUPPRESSION OF QUACKERY.

M. Beauvoisin, doctor in medicine of the faculty of Paris, was recently condemned by the police court to two years' imprisonment, and a fine of eight pounds, as guilty of obtaining money under false pretences. He was one of those advertising quacks who, in England, are allowed full swing, and pretended to "cure cancer without the knife." It was clearly proved that the patients, whom he announced as cured, were not cured at all, and that the letters which he published, as coming from them, were forgeries.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN LONDON.

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APOTHECARIES' HALL.

Licentiate admitted Thursday, May 4, 1843.

Charles Penruddocke Fitz Gerald, Sidmouth, Devon; William Wiblin, Southampton; Frederick John Robinson, R.N.; William Mills Dowding, London; Frederic Spicer, Cheltenham; John George Sproston, Oldbury; John Wyatt Barnard, Dunmow; William Dickson, Elvington, Yorkshire; Francis Robert Stradling, Bridgwater.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. M., Manchester.—We feel much obliged for the communication, but are uncertain whether the *note* which preceded it was intended for publication or not.

Thirsk.—We would willingly oblige our correspondent, but he must perceive that the announcement has no reference to "promotions or appointments."

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