

quiet, and he complained of nothing more than a slight aching in the knee.

An anodyne was given at bed-time, for a few nights, aperients occasionally exhibited, and the poultices continued until granulations began to rise, when the piece of the patella was removed, and the surface dressed with lint dipped in oil, whilst slips of adhesive plaster were employed to approximate the edges of the wound.

On the 21st January, 1839, the wound was healed, and the gentleman was so recovered as to be able to dress himself, and sit up in a chair. In March, he rode on horseback six miles to the house of Mr. Ward.

He has remained well to the present time, and has long thrown aside the splint and bandage, which he wore for some time after rising from bed. Mr. E. M.— can walk without a stick, dance, or run without much inconvenience.

Mr. Cooper observes, in reference to this case, that there is no kind of injuries the treatment of which is so likely to be improved as those of the joints. It is no longer deemed indispensable to sacrifice the limb; and it would seem that the same danger is not to be apprehended from wide as from small and punctured wounds.

### MISCELLANEOUS FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

#### NEW MODE OF TREATING TUMEFACTION OF THE SPLEEN, WITH OR WITHOUT INTERMITTENT FEVER, OR DROPSY.

Dr. VOISIN, of Limoges, affirms that he has cured eight or ten cases of enlarged spleen, as also the ascites and icteric tint of the skin consequent to that affection, by means of a mercurial plaster (*vigo cum mercurio*), with six or eight grains of sulphate of quinine applied to the region of the spleen. The plaster is to be renewed every forty or fifty days. In three or four cases treated by this eminent practitioner, the diseased organ occupied about two thirds of the left half of the abdomen. The doctor adds that the deuto-sulphate of iron, taken in *the same dose as sulphate of quinine*, when the latter is administered internally, is equally efficacious with it in the cure of intermittent fever. The fault, in the administration of the sulphate of iron, is the too small dose in which it is generally prescribed.

#### THE NECK OF THE UTERUS, AND NOT THE VAGINA, THE SEAT OF THE BLENNORRHOIC DISCHARGE IN FEMALES.

The *meatus urinarius* is unquestionably one of the seats, but Dr. Gibert, recently the physician of the Female Venereal Hospital, says that in every case where he has used the speculum, he has perceived a discharge from the uterus coexistent with that of the *meatus urinarius*; and as the uterine discharge continues after the urethral, the doctor considers the neck of the uterus as the principal source of the blennorrhagic flux. In the greater number of cases the vagina has no part in the secretion of the discharge. On the other hand, in every case the urethral and uterine fluxes coexist. In 216 patients observed in the wards of l'Ourcine, only 40 had vaginal affection of any kind, and from this number must be deducted several instances where redness was the only symptom, and which was promptly subdued. Hence the term *vaginite* for blennorrhagia is evidently unfounded. The affection of the vagina may possibly be the result of accidental and secondary irritation.

#### INJECTIONS INTO THE CAVITY OF THE UTERUS.

The French medical press contains a polemic on this subject, which, in the year 1832, formed the matter of an essay, published in the records of the Academy of Medicine. The opponents of the practice adduce instances of extreme pain in the loins having been produced by it, which have been accompanied by fever, so as to lead to a presumption of inflammation of the Fallopian tubes in some cases, and of the ovaria in others. M. Leroy d'Etiolles gives a case in which acute pain was instantly produced in one of the flanks, with rapid enlargement of the ovary on the affected side, and a degree of tympany which that author never met with in any other disease. No pain was produced by pressure, which would serve to distinguish

this affection from peritonitis. Dr. Vidal, of the Female Venereal Hospital de l'Ourcine, considers interior uterine injections to be not only a useful remedy, but free from the inconvenience above stated, if gradually introduced by means of a canula, which, by not filling up the orifice, would suffer the liquid to escape after having washed the sides of the uterus. The opposing party contend that this gradual injection does not wash away the tenacious mucus, which it is often important to detach.

### A COURT APPOINTMENT.

M. GUERSANT, physician to the *Children's Hospital*, Paris, has been lately appointed consulting physician to the king of the French. Is his majesty, Louis Philippe, already making preparation for his second childhood?

### JONES'S COMPARATIVE ANATOMY.

Recently Published, Price 2s. 6d., Part XII., containing 28 Illustrations, of

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This work will comprise, in one volume, the structure and economy of every class of living beings, and their adaptation to the circumstances in which they are severally destined to exist. The principles of zoological arrangement will be developed, and, in order to render the work as intelligible as possible to unscientific readers, a glossary of technical terms will be supplied in the concluding part.

"This work was much wanted, particularly by the younger members of the profession, whose attention we strongly direct to it."—*Medico-Chirurgical Review*.

John Van Voorst, 1, Paternoster-row.

### BOOKS RECEIVED.

Observations on the Surgical Practice of Paris. Illustrated by Cases. Being a Thesis, to which a gold medal was assigned by the Senatus Academicus of the Edinburgh University, at the Graduation of 1840. By W. O. MARKHAM, M.D. London: Highley. 1840. 8vo. Pp. 114.

[We shall make frequent extracts from this interesting Thesis.]

Elements of Natural Philosophy, &c. By GOLDING BIRD, M.D. London: Churchill. 1839. 8vo. Pp. 400.

A Treatise on the Diseases of the Eye and its Appendages. By RICHARD MIDDLEMORE, Surgeon to the Birmingham Eye Infirmary, &c. Longman and Co. London, 1835.

[We take this opportunity of stating, that one of the most distinguished ophthalmological professors in the provinces has undertaken to review for us all works on diseases of the eye, &c.]

Practical Remarks on the Discrimination and Appearances of Surgical Disease, &c. By JOHN HOWSHIP, Surgeon to the Charing-cross Hospital. Churchill, London, 1840. 8vo. Pp. 400.

A Letter to Sir B. C. Brodie, containing a Critical Inquiry into his "Lectures Illustrative of certain Nervous Affections." By WILLIAM GOODLAD, M.R.C.S. &c. Longman and Co. London, 1840. 8vo. Pp. 154.

Practical Observations on the Causes and Treatment of Curvatures of the Spine, &c. By SAMUEL HARE. Simpkin and Marshall, London, 1838. 8vo. Pp. 152.

On the Nature and Treatment of Stomach and Urinary Diseases, &c. By WILLIAM PROUT, M.D. Third Edition. Churchill, London, 1840. 8vo. Pp. 483.

A Practical Treatise on the Cure of Strabismus, or Squint, by Operation, and by Milder Treatment. With Plates. By P. BENNETT LUCAS. Highley, London, 1840. 8vo. Pp. 90.

Printed by RICHARD CLAY, of No. 5, Newmarket Terrace, Cambridge Heath, in the County of Middlesex, at his Printing-office, Nos. 7 and 8, Bread-street Hill, in the Parish of St. Nicholas Olave, in the City of London; and published by WILLIAM BALL, of 34, Paternoster Row, in the City of London, at No. 34, Paternoster Row.—Saturday, Oct. 17, 1840.

W. RENDLE, Esq. in moving the next resolution, read a paper, very ably drawn up, containing an analysis of the procedure of the poor-law commissioners, exposing their indecision on the question of medical relief, and showing their incompetency to administer the vaccination extension bill. The resolution was as follows:—"That the various attempts of the poor-law commissioners to perform the duties of a national board of health, of which they must necessarily be ignorant, are highly detrimental to the interests and health of the public; that the unfortunate committal of the vaccination extension act into the hands of the commissioners, must be injurious, if not fatal, to its beneficial working, and is an insult to the profession; that the highest remuneration under the act is altogether inadequate to the duties to be performed, and that any attempt to lessen that remuneration is adding injury to insult; and that the members of this association will not relax their endeavours to obtain a responsible and efficient board of health, in connexion with a faculty of medicine, as the proper remedy for all such grievances."

W. FARR, Esq. having seconded the resolution, it was unanimously carried.

E. CRISP, Esq. proposed, "That as the great question of medical reform must be brought forward in the ensuing session of parliament, it is highly expedient, and this association earnestly recommends to each of the other associations, to appoint one or more delegates to meet in London previous to, and during the next session of parliament, for the express purpose of attending to and furthering the cause of medical reform, both in and out of parliament, and to act in unison and confer together for that end."

WILLIAM SIMPSON, Esq. seconded the resolution, which was agreed to.

WILLIAM FARR, Esq. moved, "That petitions be presented to the queen, and to both houses of parliament, praying that the plan of medical relief proposed by this association, and partly adopted by the poor-law commissioners, and printed in the appendix to their report on the continuance of the poor-law commission, (B. No. 6, page 173,) be carried into immediate effect, and that a provision for that purpose be introduced into any bill that may pass the legislature, connected with the administration of the poor laws." The poor-law commissioners had written to the secretary of the association, stating, that they intended to address themselves to this subject in the course of the autumn. But their disposition to procrastinate had been so aptly pointed out by Mr. Rendle, that it must appear desirable to effect as much as possible by act of parliament, in preference to entrusting it to the commissioners. (Cheers.)

C. H. ROGERS HARRISON, Esq. seconded the resolution, which was put and agreed to.

R. DAVIDSON, Esq. proposed, "That the best thanks of this meeting be cordially given to T. Wakley, Esq. M.P., for his zealous endeavours to rescue the vaccination act from the hands of the poor-law commissioners, and for his successful introduction of the clause prohibiting inoculation with small-pox." Mr. Wakley's name must be coupled with all the improvements which had taken place in the profession during the last twenty years. He had been an unflinching reformer throughout his public life. (Cheers.)

WILLIAM SIMPSON, Esq. having seconded the resolution, it was carried by acclamation.

WILLIAM EALES, Esq. moved, "That the members of this association again pledge themselves to return all applications from life-insurance offices unless accompanied with a fee." Three years since he had the honour of moving a similar resolution. The information sought by the insurance office was for its own benefit; it was but fair, therefore, that it should pay for it. The Britannia had adopted the principle, and other offices were imitating the example. The only objection that could be raised, was where the patient was ultimately rejected, but that might be obviated by the applicant being required to deposit the fee. (Cheers.)

B. STEVENS, Esq. having seconded the resolution, The CHAIRMAN, in submitting it for the acceptance of the meeting, said, that he had returned many letters which were unaccompanied by a fee.

The resolution was then put, and agreed to; after which a vote of thanks was passed to the Secretary, and also to the Chairman. They briefly returned thanks, and the meeting separated.

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