

used finely powdered gum-mastic, which mixing with the blood formed a firmer coagulum, and checked the bleeding rather better than the former applications. The bowels not having been moved the sulphate of soda was continued.

7 p.m. The hæmorrhage still continuing, my friend and colleague, Mr. Barton, saw the case in consultation with me, and at his recommendation, the mouth was first well cleaned with a saturated solution of alum and spirit of turpentine freely applied to the bleeding surfaces, by means of a stiff-bristled brush. Mr. Barton stated that Gregory had consulted him about two years since, in consequence of an affection of the chest, indicating a strong tendency to phthisis.

10 p.m. No abatement in the hæmorrhage. He now looks much more anxious, face rather flushed, skin hot and dry, pulse much quicker and more throbbing, feet quite warm, bowels still unmoved, and urine scanty. Powdered catechu was freely applied to the gums, and he was directed to take an ounce of the following mixture every three hours:—

Tincture of opium 2 drachms.
Camphor mixture 6 ounces.

and when the mouth became so clogged that the lint required changing, to use the alum lotion; to lie in bed with his head well raised, to be kept perfectly quiet, and take nothing besides cold egged milk, toast-water, and his medicine.

23rd, 9½ a. m. Owing to a mistake he took the lotion internally, and used the opiate mixture as a lotion for his mouth. His bowels have been repeatedly and freely opened, the motions dark-coloured, and the urine free. He has vomited once or twice, and about the middle of the night he fainted, and afterwards slept for two hours, being his first sleep since the commencement of the hæmorrhage. The bleeding has since been much less profuse, the blood less arterial in character, the pulse less frequent, the skin cooler, and he is more cheerful. To take no internal medicine, but to continue the opiate lotion, catechu, and the same diet.

9½ p.m. The bleeding still continues but in diminished quantity, and the blood is much less florid. The bowels have been several times freely opened.

Di-sulphate of quinine. 1 drachm.
Diluted sulphuric acid 1½ drachm.
Water 6 ounces.

An ounce to be taken every three hours. A blister to be applied to the back of the neck.

Fearing that the vesicated surface would bleed, if the blister acted too strongly, he was ordered to keep it on only six hours, but through the negligence of his nurse, it was kept on eight hours. The vesication was very free, and after the fluid had been let out, the excoriated surface appeared of a deep venous purple, instead of the usual florid red. Great care was taken to preserve the cuticle until the blistered surface healed, and fortunately no hæmorrhage from it occurred.

24th. There were observed to-day two papular, purplish elevations near the tip of the tongue, but these did not bleed. There was also slight bleeding from the right nostril. The hæmorrhage from the gums gradually decreased, and none took place after the 26th. The scrophulous glands were at this time much diminished in size, and quite free from inflam-

matory action, and scarcely a trace of the purpural eruption remained. It should not be omitted that a bruise on almost any part of the body was followed by almost immediate ecchymosis.

REMARKS.

The alarming nature of cases of hæmorrhagic tendency, and the rareness of their occurrence, renders any similar case, however trifling in itself, of considerable importance, until the principles upon which to found our treatment, are fully established. A close observation of the two instances which I have witnessed,* has convinced me that local treatment of every description acts merely as a palliative whilst that state of the system exists upon which the hæmorrhage depends. This opinion is corroborated by Dr. Otto's cases,† and by his remarks upon them. My reliance in future will be upon internal treatment, by means of the sulphate of soda. Whether a free dose of calomel and colocynth given in the first instance, a plan which appears to me likely to prove beneficial, might not cause the sulphate of soda to act more quickly on the system, is a question which only experience can decide. But in all cases in which the sulphate has been given, no effect upon the hæmorrhage appears to have been produced until this medicine acted upon the bowels, which have usually been in a constipated state during several days.

There is no doubt that opium, diacetate of lead, secale cornutum, and tincture of the muriate of iron, given internally, produce effects upon the system which appear remedial in various descriptions of hæmorrhage and its consequences. But it does not seem essential to their action on the system, that the bowels should be freely open; on the contrary, most of them have a direct tendency to induce constipation. In this they differ from the sulphate of soda, and consequently there is a great probability that they cannot be efficacious in arresting similar descriptions of hæmorrhage.

* Vide case recorded in the Provincial Medical Journal, vol. 2, page 143.

† London Medical and Surgical Journal for 1808.

PROVINCIAL
Medical & Surgical Journal.
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 1844.

It is with some concern that we feel ourselves called upon to bring before our readers the following singularly curious example of judicial and juridical decision in favour of as gross an instance of empirical practice as ever infringed upon the provisions of the Apothecaries' Act. The case occurred in the Worcester Court of Pleas, although we understand it is not likely to stop there.

A woman of the name of Ann Jones, a sick nurse, and vender of nostrums for curing all manner of ills in man and beast, sued Richard Price, groom to a gentleman in the neighbourhood of Worcester, for two pounds, the bill of particulars of which showed a long array of boxes of pills, ointment, and so forth. It appeared that the defendant, being on friendly terms with the plaintiff and her

sisters, at three different times lent them £12 to put distresses out of their house, and being unable to get payment of the debt otherwise, it was recovered by suit, whereupon the present action was brought. Delivery of the goods having been proved, on cross-examination one of the plaintiff's witnesses, a sister, said, "We sell the ointment at 2s. 6d., and the pills at 1s. 6d. per box, and the lotion at 2s. per bottle; the ointment is very invaluable, it is made entirely of herbs, and cures all sorts of diseases; the materials of which it is composed are very expensive; it is good for either man or beast; I can't (said the witness, with a cunning look) tell you how it's made, so it's not true that a woman can't keep a secret. The medicine is good for burns, scalds, scrofula, rheumatism, gout, and numerous other diseases. When persons apply to my sister for advice, she prescribes what medicine they should take, and tells them the number of pills they will require; sometimes three or four will do, and this number may be increased up to twenty." The same points were brought out from another witness. It was then put to the Court that plaintiff's own witnesses having clearly shown that she had been practising as an apothecary within the meaning of the Act 55 Geo. III., c. 19, s. 20, she could not recover.

The case of the Apothecaries Company v. Allen was referred to, in which Lord Chief Justice Denman distinctly laid it down that to prescribe as well as prepare the medicines was to act as an apothecary within the meaning of the statute, a view which was taken by the whole Court on the point being argued before it, Mr. Justice Little-dale saying, "I don't know what is acting or practising as an apothecary within the clause in question if this is not."

It was therefore submitted on the part of the defendant Price that there could be no doubt on the point, and that consequently there was nothing to go to the jury. Some technical objection however was urged on the other side, and the presiding Magistrate decided on sending the case to the jury, remarking in his summing up,—that it was for them to say whether it had been shown that plaintiff had acted as an apothecary; if she had, verdict must be for defendant, but they might probably think that she had sold the ointment, pills, &c., as nostrums, and in that case she would be entitled to a verdict. Nostrums are things of value, as might be learned from Holy Scriptures, where mention was made of salves and other nostrums. The jury found for the plaintiff, damages £2.

It is our wish at all times to treat the decisions of Courts of Justice with deference, and to shew every respect for those who preside over them; still so extraordinary a doctrine as that laid down by the Magistrate in the present instance, as to the grounds on which the jury were to found their verdict, cannot be allowed to pass without question. However well it might have accorded with the

ingenuity of an advocate or a special pleader, retained for the express purpose, to invent so palpable an evasion of the provisions of the Apothecaries' Act, it was scarcely within the province of the Judge either to aid him in such a course, or to point out to him that it might be adopted with effect.

In giving a charge, the duty of the Judge is to draw the attention of the jury to the leading and important facts adduced in evidence before them; to give to the evidence its proper value; to place the law of the case in its just light, and to divest the whole proceedings of the trial, whether criminal or civil, of all those mystifications in which the pleaders on either side, to serve the purposes of their respective clients, are too apt to endeavour to involve them. Now, if the Apothecaries' Act be of any value at all—if it have any meaning whatever in regard to the protection which it affords, or was intended to afford, against the practices of unqualified and illegal pretenders, the case on which we are commenting is precisely one which comes under its provisions. It was the duty, then, of the Magistrate before whom the case was heard rather to support and enforce the evident intention of the Act, therein following the precedent established by the decision of superior Courts, than to exercise his skill as a barrister, in pointing out a loop-hole through which the offender might creep, and the law, which it is his province to administer, be rendered null and void.

We are indebted for the heads of the report of the trial to the *Worcester Herald*, and cannot refrain from quoting the very judicious comment with which the account given of it concludes:—

"The prodigious amount of harm done by ignorant and empirical pretenders to the healing art, is so frequently thrust upon our observation in the most fatal shape in its results, that we cannot help expressing our regret that the learned Judge in this case should unfortunately have placed himself in the position of appearing to give the weight of his authority to the practices of one of the dangerous fraternity. The Apothecaries' Act was a small, a very small instalment of medical reform, but it seems to us that if Mr. —'s law be accurate even it must be a dead letter. What we ask, is to prevent any one when sued under its provisions from saying, 'Oh I did prescribe it is very true, but I prepared no medicines; my salves, ointments, pills, lotions, were nostrums.'"

We are no advocates for the exercise of arbitrary power, but we cannot but think that the spirit of inquiry manifested by the Duke of Norfolk at the wars of Montreuil, in the time of Henry the Eighth, might be imitated with advantage in the nineteenth century. We quote Thomas Gale's account of certain empirical practices of that day, from the work recently issued by the Sydenham Society. "I remember," says he, "when I was in the wars at Montreuil, (1544) in the time of that most famous Prince, Henry VIII., there was a great rabblement

there, that took upon them to be surgeons. Some were sow gelders, and some horse gelders, with tinkers and cobblers. This noble sect did such great cures, that they got themselves a perpetual name; for like as Thessalus' sect were called Thessalions, so was this noble rablement, for their notorious cures, called dog-leaches; for in two dressings they did commonly make their cures whole and sound for ever, so that they neither felt heat nor cold nor no manner of pain after. But when the Duke of Norfolk, who was then general, understood how the people did die, and that of small wounds, he sent for me and certain other surgeons, commanding us to make search how these men came to their death, whether it were by the grievousness of their wounds, or by the lack of knowledge of the surgeons, and we, according to our commandment, made search through all the camp, and found many of the same good fellows which took upon them the names of surgeons, not only the names, but the wages also. We asking of them whether they were surgeons or no, they said they were; we demanded with whom they were brought up, and they with shameless faces, would answer, either with one cunning man, or another, which was dead. Then we demanded of them what chirurgery stuff they had to cure men withal; and they would shew us a pot or a box, which they had in a budget, wherein was such trumpery as they did use to grease horses' heels withal, and laid upon scabbed horses' backs, with verval and such like. And others that were cobblers and tinkers, they used shoemakers' wax, with the rust of old pans, and made therewithal a noble salve, as they did term it. But in the end this worthy rablement was committed to the Marshalsea, and threatened by the Duke's Grace to be hanged for their worthy deeds, except they would declare the truth, what they were and of what occupations, and in the end they did confess, as I have declared to you before." p. 269.

"*Anatomical Manipulation: or the Methods of pursuing Investigations in Comparative Anatomy and Physiology. Also an Introduction to the Use of the Microscope, &c.* By ALFRED TULK, M.R.C.S., M.C.S., and ARTHUR HENFREY, A.L.S., M. Micr., S. with illustrative diagrams." London: Van Voorst, 1844.

The authors of the work before us have undertaken to supply the student in anatomy with directions how to proceed in the examination of the various organs and structures found in the animal kingdom, and also how to preserve these for future examination. They have arranged their matter under three general divisions.

The first division is occupied by the description of the various appliances for dissecting, and all the instruments used in making preparations. The second division is devoted to the description of the optical principles on which the microscope is made; a portion

that might have been left out without injury to the work, were it not that the latter part of the article treats of the use of this instrument as adapted to anatomical research. The third, and by far the most important division, contains instructions for dissecting, and an account of the means best adapted for the preservation of animal tissues.

A work embracing so many subjects must be in great part a compilation; for there are few who have engaged themselves so extensively in the study of comparative anatomy as to enable them to write from their own experience a work on anatomical manipulation. The authors have, accordingly, borrowed very largely from a French work, the "*Traité Pratique et Théorique d'Anatomie Comparative.*" They have also made use of many facts mentioned in anatomical subjects in our own language. Such a work was, however, much wanted in our language, and we owe our thanks to the authors for having bestowed their labour in writing a book upon this practical subject; and although the work is faulty in the absence of definite instruction in many points where the student may require it—yet on the whole the production must be considered as useful, and especially in the present scarcity of works on the subject.

The chapter which treats of the osseous system is by far the most perfect, and exhibits a considerable practical knowledge in the preparation of skeletons. That which treats of the tegumentary system, on the other hand, is far from satisfactory, both as regards the quality and the quantity of the matter which it contains.

The general arrangement will not admit of much improvement, but should a second edition be called for, we would strongly urge the authors to condense the matter in the present edition, and to add more practical information, so that the student who is as yet a novice in dissecting, may learn, at the least possible expenditure of time in reading, the method he should pursue in examining the particular part with which he is desirous of becoming acquainted. Descriptions cannot be too plain nor too much in detail by which beginners are to be instructed, but at the same time they should be in as few words as possible, otherwise they become tedious, and will not be read.

In conclusion, we recommend to our readers the above work, as the best in our language on the subject, and although we cannot give unqualified praise, yet we would criticise it in no unfriendly spirit, and trust that we may soon see a second and an improved edition.

Advice to Mothers on the Management of their Offspring, during the periods of Infancy, Childhood, and Youth. By PYE HENRY CHAVASSE, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London. Third Edition. London and Birmingham, 1843. pp. 219.

Advice to Wives on the Management of themselves during the Periods of Pregnancy, Labour, and Suckling. By PYE HENRY CHAVASSE, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London. Second Edition. London and Birmingham, 1843. pp. 91.

These works it will be at once perceived from their titles are intended for general circulation, and they seem to be well fitted for the purpose of affording