from pain, and was much exhausted, was removed to her ward, and allowed an anodyne and hot wine and water: she, however, was unable to rest, and re-action not taking place, she sunk rapidly, and died of collapse, thirty-six hours after the operation.

This was, doubtless, a fair case for the operation, and offered the only hope of saving either the mother or child; but the time to save the child was while it was alive; and after that was dead the mother was too much exhausted to leave much hope of her recovery from so severe an operation; so that the delay in the case certainly was the cause of losing one if not both lives. But as I intended only to give the details of the operation, which was skilfully performed, I shall give no opinions, but leave others to draw such conclusions, and make such reflections as they please.

DENTAL COLLEGES.

BY W. R. HANDY, M.D., BALTIMORE, MD.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

MAN, from his constitutional formation, is necessarily a creature of *want*; and of wants of various kind, differing according to the complex being of his nature, but all of such imperious necessity as to demand provision for these wants; and still further, provision of a suitable character, otherwise damage will be the result, and that damage, it is believed, will be felt by the constitution, precisely in the proportion in which this provision is dealt out, as to time, quantity, and quality. Now these wants of man's being may all be arranged under three heads, viz., those of his *physical, intellectual and moral*. Among his physical wants are those having reference to his body, as the supplying it with food and raiment, and the restoring it when diseased or injured. To meet this class of wants, a great variety of arts have been introduced, among which is numbered the art of Dentistry. His intellectual wants refer to the mind, which, if any thing, are still more imperious in their demands than those of the body, for the latter have not only been hushed, but entirely forgotten during the loudness of the calls of the former, and the intensity of the gratification furnished by the surpassing excellence of the provisions destined to supply the mental wants. Among these intellectual wants stand out first and most prominent, education of all the faculties of the mind; for each faculty requires as much its proper aliment, which education can alone furnish, for the existence of intellectual life, as food, clothing, and the atmosphere are essential provisions for the existence of physical life. Now this education, to become available for the whole mass of mind, has been reduced into practical and tangible shape, by the founding of schools and colleges, which are, as it were, the great mental store houses, for dealing out from day to day to the hungry mind, such aliment in kind and quantity as is found best adapted for its highest intellectual growth and development, as well as best suited, also, to make it practical and useful, by teaching it how to apply its education to the benefit of mankind, and to relieving the various ills of suffering humanity.

Among the numerous colleges destined to this great end, are now included the *dental*, and about which we propose offering simply a few plain, common-sense, practical remarks for the reflection of the public, as well as the profession.

The utility and absolute necessity of medical colleges, as an essential element for preparing the mind of the physician to meet the great practical duties of his profession, in saving life and restoring health, no one for a moment pretends to call in question. And still further it will also be readily admitted, that such preparation is far superior to any private instruction which any single individual can furnish, however excellent and valuable it may be; and for the simple reason that a faculty of physicians, having under their charge a college, with hospitals and infirmaries, and each devoting himself to a particular department of the healing art, and each applying the principles of his teachings in the practical management of disease among the numerous patients of the hospital, thus presents to the medical student facilities, both theoretical and practical, which it is impossible that any private instruction can furnish to the same extent, and which, in fact, no physician pretends for an instant to insist upon. While on the other hand private instruction is by no means meant to be undervalued, but on the contrary to be regarded as an important and essential co-worker with the colleges during the recess of their sessions; and instead therefore of having antagonistic interests, they are in truth but continuous links in the same great and unbroken chain of medical instruction.

Now if these propositions be admitted in reference to medical colleges, we are at a loss to conceive why the same should not also be conceded to dental colleges—and precisely upon the same grounds, and for the same reasons. Every one freely acknowledges, as well as painfully feels the force of the fact, that the teeth are frequently liable to disease, decay, and loss; and that the removal of this disease and decay, with the restoration of this loss involves, and has involved from time immemorial, a want—and a want of equal necessity in requiring suitable provisions for the preservation of the health of the teeth, as for the health of any other portion of the body; and to meet this almost universal want, we find that dentists have consequently sprung up in every part of the world—for the people will have this want supplied; and if they cannot get good dentists, they will take bad ones, rather than have none.

Now the question comes back, and may be fairly asked, why is there not the same reason for believing, and that confidently, that dental colleges and their infirmaries can, and do furnish the same facilities for theoretical and practical instruction, and do take the same pains in educating the head and the hand of the dental student for all the duties of his profession, as that of any medical college in qualifying their students for the practice of general medicine? And if such a position be conceded, then the absolute necessity of their existence, grounded upon their analogy to medical colleges, must also be conceded. Such concession, however, is not only derived from analogy, but the people themselves have spoken out upon this subject, and their representatives in the legislatures of two States, viz., Maryland and Ohio, have declared that dental col-

leges are necessary ; and in accordance with such declaration, have consequently granted charters to the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, and the Dental College of Ohio, giving them the usual powers of medical colleges in general.

The necessity of dental colleges being established, the next position, of their furnishing superior facilities over any private dental instruction, must also be conceded ; and for the same reason that college medical instruction is superior to any private medical teaching. And although this is now beginning to be acknowledged by the great mass of intelligent dentists, yet they seem to be much slower in admitting that private dental instruction is simply a link, and only a preparatory step, to that more thorough theoretical and practical drilling which the dental college furnishes ; and which, as in the private medical teacher, instead of placing himself in the attitude of an enemy to the college, on the contrary, should regard himself as its friend and co-worker—as they each are striving for the same noble end, viz., the elevation of the science and the art of dentistry, as well as the amelioration of the sufferings of their fellow beings. Now if this be true, that the grand aim of college dental instruction and private dental instruction is the same, why then any more than in the medical should there be any difference or discord, where there is unity of purpose, and consequently, where we can see no good reason why there should not also be unity of feeling and co-operation ?

Having already trespassed much further than we intended, we shall close with the simple statement, that we have endeavored, throughout the whole of these broken remarks, to present dental colleges in their true attitude before the public and the dental profession, as instruments designed for the injury of neither, but for the benefit of both.

NOTES TAKEN FROM HEARING MEDICAL LECTURES IN PHILADELPHIA, IN 1815-16.

BY JOSEPH COMSTOCK, M.D., LEBANON, CONN.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

DR. BENJAMIN RUSH was dead previous to the writer's attending lectures ; but Dr. James Rush, his son, read his father's lectures (not in the University) to a small class, of which I was one. These were considered by Dr. James Mease, and by Dr. Joseph Parrish, to whom the writer had letters of introduction, as having received Dr. Rush's last touches and illustrations, and as being of great value. Dr. Barton, immediate successor to Dr. Benjamin Rush in the chair of Theory and Practice, died whilst I was there, and never lectured after my arrival. Lectures in his department were in consequence supplied by the other professors. This will explain why some things in my notes, as for instance, in Dr. Wistar's lectures, who was professor of Anatomy ; in Dr. Chapman's, who was then professor of *Materia Medica*, and in Dr. Physick's, who was professor of Surgery, may not appear as strictly belonging to their departments. And so of others.

DR. PHYSICK.

On Apoplexy.—Mr. Home punctured the *dura mater*. It relieved