those of his old friend, Judge Hopkinson (now, alas ! no more), are perhaps as generally retailed over the United States, among both the people and the profession, as are those of Abernethy and Johnson in Great Britain.

Who, among the thousands that have sat at the feet of this Gamaliel in medicine, but can recollect the innumerable classical allusions and quotations in which his introductory, valedictory and ordinary lectures, whether clinical or not, abound? The fable of the voyage of the Argonauts is annually alluded to and recited. Quotations from Horace, Virgil, Homer, Akenside (the latter he speaks highly of as the poet and physician), Johnson, Pope; &c. &c., are all familiar to those who have attended the lectures of Dr. Chapman. The figure of a ship on a voyage, the physician for pilot, is often used. The beautiful description of a traveller going out in the night and seeing no light, at first, until one star after another bursts upon his astonished sight, in illustration of the effect of the study of medicine upon the mind of the student, is known to all of us.

[To be continued.]

RENAL CALCULUS—PASSAGE THROUGH THE URETER, ASSISTED BY THE USE OF ETHER.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

THE patient was a man somewhat advanced in life, of a gross but temperate habit, accustomed to a large amount of exercise in the open air, and free from dyspeptic, and in fact from any kind of ailments. He said, however, that he had been subject to attacks of gravel, and that his urine was usually turbid, and deposited a red sediment.

After riding some hours in a jolting wagon, he was seized with violent pain, principally in the left iliac region, which became somewhat tender, but extending from the small of the back in the left side, along the ileum towards the groin. This had lasted for several hours when I saw him. There was slight nausea, and frequent desire to void the urine, which, by his account, was small in quantity, and free from blood. The pulse was 76, and there was no fever. He took an ounce of phosphate of soda; and by a large enema of warm water, and the application of fomentations and poultices, the pain abated, and he passed a comfortable night.

The next morning I found him sitting up, with slight pain over the left kidney. The urine had been passed in moderate quantity, and deposited an abundant lateritious sediment. He was directed to drink freely of flaxseed tea, with carbonate of soda in solution. An hour after, he was suddenly seized anew with the most excruciating pain, attended with violent paroxysms of retching. Sixty drops of laudanum were given; and as the distress continued, I determined to "etherize" him, with the view, at once, of relieving his anguish, and of facilitating the passage of the calculus into the bladder. The first inspirations caused ineffectual efforts to vomit; which having been checked by a copious draught of warm water, I again applied the sponge until he became completely insensible.

After remaining in this state a few minutes, he awoke, free from pain, of which he has since had no return.

Within a few hours he passed a considerable quantity of urine, of light color and free from sediment; and in it I found a very small, irregularly shaped concretion, which proved, on analysis, to be composed almost entirely of lithic acid. Its weight was only 0.16 of a grain. The next day he was in his usual health, and able to pursue his business.

WM. P. DEXTER.

Brookline, March 28, 1849.

EXTERNAL APPLICATION OF CHLOROFORM.

To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

SIR,—I do not remember having seen reports of the external application of chloroform. This mode of application may, however, be of more frequent occurrence than I have supposed, judging from what I have seen, or rather from what I have *not* seen. Should this be too common-place or unworthy attention, you will please decline its notice.

The application externally of this powerful anæsthetic agent has given me very much satisfaction. The few following cases will show your readers its happy effects in my hands.

CASE I.—I was summoned hastily to see a daughter of Mrs. P., about 12 years old, who had fallen while at play, and it was feared had broken her arm. I found the girl almost frantic, complaining bitterly of her arm, and not allowing any one to touch it. My first intent was to quiet her by the administration of chloroform, and while under its influence examine the arm. Accordingly I prepared a handkerchief with a small quantity; but from her restive disposition, I failed entirely in its administration. It occurred to me that an application to the arm might be of service. With a little persuasion I induced her to let me “bathe” her arm with what I had upon the handkerchief (perhaps 3*j*). Not two minutes elapsed before she said her arm felt as well as ever. On examination—which was allowed without the least sign of pain—no fracture or dislocation was found. She soon fell into a quiet sleep, from exhaustion or otherwise, and in two hours was as able and willing to romp and play as ever.

CASE II.—Mrs. W. called me in to “do something” for her leg. It was very painful, and had been so for twenty-four hours. She had exhausted all the domestic remedies and quack nostrums to no good purpose. I found her sitting in a chair, with the pained leg in another. From the knee to the foot (the seat of the pain) there was an unusual heat, some swelling and tenderness. I doubled a piece of cotton cloth, laid it upon the affected part, and saturated it with chloroform. One minute had not passed before it was much easier, and not five before it was perfectly easy. I left her a vial containing 3*ss*. to apply in the same manner if the pain returned. The next morning Mrs. W. was about the house as usual, having had no occasion for a second application.

CASE III.—Mrs. H., about 60 years of age, had “turned” her ankle