by those who saw the ligature applied in the first instance, and who saw it come away to-day, is, that the neck of the tumour is not cut through, and that the twisted silk ligature (which was the one applied) was not strong enough. The patient's general health keeps good. The circumstance of the ligature not being strong enough was noticed to Mr. BRODIE by Mr. BABINGTON at the time of its being applied, but no attention was paid to the notification.

10. A fresh ligature was put upon the canules by Mr. BABINGTON (Mr. BRODIE not appearing able to do it himself) with a view of applying it again. Before doing it, however, a pair of forceps was introduced, and the tumour being found loose was drawn away, and the knot of the ligature (which had not rotted) with it. The polypus had shrunk, we should suppose, to half its natural diameter and size, and was putrid.

DEATH OF THE MATRON FROM CHOLERA.

The first case of the epidemic cholera occurring in the Hospital this year has been in the person of the matron, Mrs. Martha Read. She had been labouring under a slight attack of diarrhoea for some few days, for the relief of which she was treated with the usual remedies by Mr. HUTCHINS, the apothecary. On Thursday the 28th, the affection rapidly increased, and all the symptoms of confirmed cholera soon set in. Mr. HUTCHINS now called in Dr. WILSON, who prescribed small doses of calomel and opium, and at the express wish of the deceased, Mr. KEATE was sent for from Windsor, and saw her on the morning of the 29th, but the disease did not abate, and in the course of the day she died.*

On Sunday, the 31st, and Monday, the 1st of September, several of the patients in the Hospital were affected with severe diarrhoea. The hospital porter was seized with the same symptom, and in the person of one of the night nurses the symptoms were so severe as to induce the belief that they would speedily run on to confirmed cholera. On the following day, however, both these patients were better, and a fresh case (in the person of one of the surgery-men) was added to the list.

These latter cases (slight as they have been) would, we should hope, prove sufficient to induce the house committee to postpone the painting of the hall of the Hospital until some more safe opportunity.

* She was the widow of the late Mr. Read, formerly a surgeon in Chelsea, and had held the situation but 14 months.

At present there is a strong current of air through the ground floor of the building, which is loaded with the vapours of paint and turpentine, than which we can suppose nothing more deleterious to the mucous membrane of the stomach and bowels at this season of the year.

EXPENDITURE OF THE DUBLIN COLLEGE FUNDS ON DEPUTATIONS TO LONDON.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Perhaps you who have such universal knowledge of all things could inform me, whether the report be true that our deputies from Dublin to the Parliamentary Committee have sent into the College their several bills, to the amount of a thousand pounds; and if they have, for what? For endeavouring to *influence* the legislature in favour of their collegiate abuses? Have the College sanctioned such a thing, or will they? Are they mad? Does not this look very like a scramble for the College funds? Has there been any analogous expenditure by the other colleges, or has the legislature been left *uninfluenced* by them? Have they fared the worse for it? Is this a *legal* expenditure of our funds? Some say not. If not, is not the treasury committee answerable for any unjust outlay of college money? Harrison, they say, has netted 500*l.* this year by deputations alone. Enlighten us a little on these topics, and you will oblige,

Yours, X. Y. Z.

Dublin, Sept. 2.

P. S. How many days was each witness under examination? People will have it that they were paid for attendance on the Committee when regaling themselves upon white bait at Greenwich.

RESUSCITATION OF AN INFANT.—Mr. J. T. BATTEN, of Tooley-street, has forwarded to us the following particulars of his treatment of an infant which had lost all signs of vitality for a space of nearly half an hour directly after its birth:—"Mrs. R. gave birth to the child on the 4th inst. She had previously had three children, each of which, born between the eighth and ninth month, had expired at birth, under similar circumstances, having, however, been left without any efforts at resuscitation. On this occasion," says Mr. B., "my determination was to act with the greatest care, so that the chord was not tied until the infant had cried powerfully, and its maternal pulsation had ceased. It was at this period that vitality seemed to cease. The moment placental circulation stopped,

the crying rapidly lost power: presently respiration failed, and animal heat receded, so that just three minutes after birth every symptom of animation subsided. The skin was of a cadaverous aspect, while the surface of the body was quite cold, and the heart and lungs were left without a vestige of impulse. I first applied friction to the chest by means of gin, which happened to be in the room; and having directed it to be wrapped in flannel, and instructed the nurse to procure hot water, my next step was to inflate the lungs; which, having no convenient apparatus at hand, was effected by my mouth, but with a result entirely fruitless so far. A warm-bath was now formed, of the temperature of my own blood, in which the child was immersed; and the fat-like matter being washed from the surface of its body, artificial respiration was again resorted to; this was easily effected, as just described, during the pressure of the fingers upon the œsophagus and nostrils,—of course alternately emptying the lungs by a similar process. But nothing seemed of any service; and a quarter of an hour had now elapsed since the signs of life had subsided. As some dilute gin had already been administered, half a teaspoonful of strong gin was now passed into the stomach; and having introduced my finger upon the epiglottis, which seemed to rest in a rather tenacious manner in its situation, and raised its apex a little, artificial respiration was again persevered in; when, to my surprise and satisfaction, signs of returning life showed themselves. The surface of the thorax and the lower extremities seemed to resume their natural colour, animal heat gradually returned, and an occasional movement supervened. Twenty-five minutes had now elapsed, and a full space of half an hour had passed before the vital functions were decidedly restored."

ARREST OF VOMITING.—Mr. Richard Baylis, of St. John-square, M.R.C.S., has addressed a letter to us on this subject, in which he says,—“I beg to offer to your notice a simple but effectual mode that I have followed for nearly forty years in the treatment of cholera morbus (and which not in one case has failed), hoping and believing that if pursued by my medical brethren, to arrest the vomiting attendant on the malignant cholera, they will find it equally beneficial. It consists of the effervescing draught, but given in a *different manner* to that which is usually employed, and on this mode of administration *depends its virtue*. I dissolve one scruple

of the subcarbonate of potash in an ounce of peppermint-water, with one drachm of the tinct. of catechu, one of simple sirup, and ten drops of tincture of opium, for the *alkaline draught*. I then dissolve eighteen grains of citric acid in an ounce of water for the *acid draught*. The alkaline is poured into one glass, the acid into another, when the patient is directed to take a glass in each hand, swallow the alkaline, and the *instant* the glass is from the mouth swallow the acid. Thus the extrication of carbonic acid takes place entirely *within the stomach*. If this be *ejected* I repeat the dose within an hour, and I solemnly assure you that in the course of an extensive practice I know but two instances which required a third dose (which was repeated two hours after the second) without the vomiting being entirely suppressed; the one was a most violent state of common cholera with spasms, the other a decided case of the malignant. After the vomiting has ceased I repeat the medicines every six hours, for a few doses, in the common way, urging the patient to drink it the instant the ebullition commences. It appears to me that the carbonic gas has the power to render inert some morbid secretion in the stomach, and that therefore the extrication of gas should wholly take place there. In the vomiting attendant on bilious colic, inflammation of the stomach or bowels, strangulated hernia, and injuries of the head, I have used it with equal success, and regard it as my sheet anchor. In cases where no purging exists, of course I omit the catechu. I hope other practitioners may be induced to follow my manner of administering the effervescing draught.

“August 25th.”

GASES IN THE BLOOD.—TREATMENT OF CHOLERA.—I beg to refer the readers of THE LANCET to vol. i. for the year 1832-3, page 209, in which the following words occur:—“I also charge the water with the protoxide of nitrogen, being what I considered the best way of conveying into the circulation a quantity of oxygen, to counteract the baneful effects of the free carbon discovered by Dr. Clanny in the cholera blood. THOS. LATTA. Leith, Oct. 29, 1832.” I presume the late Dr. Latta means *excess* of free carbon in this paragraph; and therefore, in the artificial serum which he employed he used, with good effect, the protoxide of nitrogen.

In accordance with the proof which I gave in my last paper in THE LANCET, that oxygen and nitrogen gases circulate in our veins, I intend to throw into the

veins of the inferior extremities, in cases of cholera collapse, a supply of artificial serum, with a suitable proportion of atmospheric air; and, perhaps, if the blood be not too much drained of its serum from previous vomiting and purging, I may be inclined to throw into the veins, in a gradual manner, a sufficiency of atmospheric air; and I have no doubt that much good must result from this warrantable practice. Fortunately for Sunderland and its vicinity, we are at present free from this frightful epidemic.

W. REID CLANNY.

Sunderland, Aug. 27, 1834.

COLCHICUM IN CHOLERA.—*To the Editor of THE LANCET.*—Sir,—Having found the accompanying prescription successful in eight consecutive cases last year, and in every case in which I have had an opportunity of administering it this autumn, in which brandy or opium had not been previously given (being fifteen in the incipient stage, and seven perfectly collapsed), I trust there needs no apology for requesting you to lay it, together with the following cases, before your readers.

Prescription.

R. *Vin. Sem. Colch.* ʒij;
Mag. Sulph. ʒij;
Inf. Rosæ ʒijj, ʒvj. M.

Two tablespoonfuls of the mixture every half hour.

I remain, with much respect,
 Your obedient servant,

THOMAS YOUNG COTTER.
 12, Hayes Place, Lisson Grove,
 Aug. 27th, 1834.

* * We publish Mr. Cotter's note and the prescription, and add, that the cases related were, from the symptoms detailed, cases of malignant cholera, and that recovery followed the treatment; but we have not room at the present season for their insertion.—Ed. L.

EMETICS OF COMMON SALT IN CHOLERA.

DURING the period in which I held the office of surgeon to the Cholera Hospital at Stonehouse, in 1832, I experienced many conflicting feelings on witnessing the recovery of numerous cases of cholera without the use of any internal remedy, and others, again, in which the patients died, notwithstanding the use of every plan that had been submitted to the profession, and thus after passing through this perilous duty in safety, my mind was a perfect chaos, and I could not resolve upon any plan of treatment with satisfaction or confidence. When, then, a few

cases appeared in the autumn of last year, I was almost in despair, and being thus led to review the notes I had made of my treatment on its first visit, I found this important fact presenting itself,—that in every case that recovered I had employed common salt, avowedly, it is true, as an emetic. In many instances it did not act in this way, and when retained was much more beneficial to the patient. This circumstance suggested its employment in three cases which next presented themselves. With regard to the *modus operandi* of the salt, I cannot for a moment believe that vomiting alone is its only effect; for if we examine these cases, it will be found that the solution was retained by the stomach, and the more frequently it was repeated, the more apparent and permanent was its influence. From Mr. Beaman's own statement it will be seen, that unless it be followed up, and the solution is quickly repeated, a relapse ensues, and thus far we agree. I think, Sir, that the communication of Mr. B. is one of the most important that has been laid before the profession, and it affords me much pleasure to confirm his statement, adding my testimony to a free use of this valuable remedy.—*From a letter, dated Sept. 1st, 1834, addressed to the Editor, by Mr. BURROWS, of Stonehouse, late Surgeon to the Cholera Hospital in that town, but whose communication reached us too late for insertion entire in our present Number.*—Ed. L.

WEST INDIAN REMARKS ON THE RICE AND CHOLERA QUESTION.—The late periodicals mention the attention which has been attracted throughout Britain, by the disclosures of Dr. Tytler, relative to the production of cholera by using diseased rice as an article of food, which was first made public by the discussions that took place at the *London Medical Society*, and which have been very fully given (from *THE LANCET*) in the pages of this journal. Our opinion has already been recorded, and we feel proud in being confirmed in it by the most enlightened physicians of the day. Should these facts be established, and we have every reason to conclude they will be, our Board of Health may retire from their labours, and enjoy the pleasure which many have done before them, of having exerted themselves for the public good.

By what means has Jamaica been saved from the scourge which has caused such devastation over so large a portion of the world? How have we escaped from the pestilence, whose appearance has ever been the forerunner of

death to thousands? What, if we were able to answer, "Because we have had no DISEASED RICE in Jamaica?"—*Jamaica Physical Journal*, April 5, 1834.

MEDICAL REFORM IN JAMAICA.—Medical reform is all the cry in England. How strange it is that Jamaica should ever take the lead of the mother country, in extending with liberality her various institutions! Thus the political disabilities of gentlemen of the Hebrew nation were disallowed—the trammels which prevented them from attaining posts of honour and respectability were laid aside, and the talented of that nation are now eligible to the highest offices of trust.

Now, while our professional brethren in England are eager for reform in their medical institutions, Jamaica has already afforded them a glorious example in incorporating all who, at the present time, are in practice, into one body politic. The physician, surgeon, general practitioner, and apothecary, all who enter and enrol themselves Fellows of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, according to the conditions of the Act, are placed upon the same footing, and no difference of rank can exist. The Act for establishing a College of Physicians and Surgeons in Jamaica, holds out a great inducement to young men to enter it, more particularly those who are not in possession of a diploma from some of the recognised colleges in Britain, as it at once confers upon them that appellation for which years of application are required in the mother country. Not that we would have them believe, that it is only requisite they should appear and tender a certificate that they have been in practice. An examination is required to show their proficiency, but it matters not how that proficiency has been attained, provided it is approved of by the president and censors.

—*Idem*.

MEDICAL CHARTER.—(*From a Correspondent*.) It is no small proof of the progress of liberal opinions, that the *Medico-Chirurgical Society* have, without opposition, obtained from the present Government a charter of Incorporation. In due time the history of the intrigues by which an application for a similar charter was defeated under a Tory administration will be made public. The facts came out before the medical committee, and are recorded in the evidence. The President of the College of Physicians was the chief opponent of the Society, and his reasons for interfering were grounded on an im-

pression that his College would in some way be affected by the existence of a chartered medical Society which held its meetings so near his own door.

EMETICS IN CHOLERA.—MR. GODRICH, of Chelsea, has addressed a letter to us this week on the treatment of the cholera. We have room in this Number but for one sentence:—"In confessing (says Mr. G.) the value of an early and free repetition of emetics, which I do most readily, I trust that no one will rest his only hope on the benefit derivable from their administration, for in no one case have I yet seen a cure performed by emetics only, however freely they may have been given."

CORRESPONDENTS.

Librarian.—Little or nothing can be objected to in the contents of the book. To be sure, it is, like a majority of similar productions, vilely written, the style being the Bæotian. Excellent advice, however, may be couched in very rough language, though we are sorry day after day to see such scandal cast upon the literary character of the medical profession by the carelessness of its well-educated members when they flourish the pen.

Delta.—Our poverty of space, and not our will, consented to the former exclusion. We have done our best now, and are desirous of meeting the wishes of our correspondent. Perhaps an impression, founded on a belief that those interests which the "lethargic" and "apathetic" themselves neglect, will be taken good care of in another quarter—better care of than *Delta* seems to suspect—operated on our mind at the period of his former communications. We still entertain this impression. However, the flame shall not need feeding while we can by any means find elbow-room for the bel-lows-blower. His letter is admirable. The letter of September 2 has reached us.

Mr. Bew's letter has reached us.

Mr. Thomas's action presented no new feature. Such a fact as that proved by the Chevalier Ruspini, would have decided the verdict in the case of any such trial.

O. P. Q. (Bond Street) may visit and prescribe, but he can have nothing to do personally with the dispensing, nor can he recover any charge for medicines.

ERRATA—In Dr. Clanny's paper, page 756, col. 2, line 4, for *cupped* read *capped*.—Page 757, col. 2, line 22 from bottom, after *iron* insert *metal*.—Page 759, col. 2, lines 21 and 24, for *truce* read *trace*; line 52, for *fluid* read *analysis*. Other errata mentioned by Dr. Clanny are unimportant, and are, moreover, as well as the above, *all* of them the errors of his amanuensis, who is, by-the-by, a most careless fellow.