bowels torpid. Discontinued stimulants, and gave small doses of mag. sulph. and a quarter of a grain of tart. antimony every four hours. Aug. 22d, pulse 120, full and bounding; bowels have not been moved; tongue furred; headache. R. Venesec. oz. xvj.; mag. sulph. oz. j., to be taken immediately, and tart. emet. a quarter of a grain every four or six hours; diet absolute. Aug. 23d, pulse 110, rather full; bowels patent; slight headache; complains of great soreness. R. Vensect. oz. xij. Ordered gruel for diet; treatment continued. Aug. 24th, pulse 90, soft, rather feeble; bowels costive; tongue white; edges of wound dark purple; showing a state of sphacelation, and very offensive to smell. Removed the dead parts. R. Sprinkle Peruvian bark on edges of wound; but previously wetting it with tinct. myrrh. Other treatment continued, with the addition of small portions of whiskey; diet more liberal. Sept. 5th, pulse 90; bowels patent; suppuration healthy; the dead parts having been daily removed; granulations abundant. From this time my patient gradually, but steadily recovered. And after having taken about fifty satisfactory inspections of the contents of the chest, the wound closed. He now took a cough, and complained of much pain in his side; and as the cough increased, I deemed it prudent to make a small opening in the most depending part of the wound or cicatrix. A thin sanies issued from the puncture, and the cough and pain ceased. After a month or two, the wound was again suffered to heal; but the cough and pain immediately returned, and he grew pale and lost flesh apace. The opening in the side was renewed; a viscid and straw-colored fluid issued forth. The cough and pain ceased as before, and his flesh returned. I now introduced a silver tube into the opening I had made, through which the same kind of liquid constantly drained. My patient quickly recovered his former health and strength; he also returned to his former habits of dissipation, and has had many a pugilistic contest since. In consequence of the loss of two ribs, he leans considerably to the left side.

Remarks.—This case presents several points of interest, as it stands opposed to almost all authority—which teaches that it is death for air to penetrate through the thoracic parietes. It is true that Dr. Wells, of South Carolina, and a few other bright luminaries of the present day, have shown to the contrary, and this case is positive testimony on the subject. Here was a man with almost half his left side torn off; thus admitting a free current of air not only into the pleura, but lungs and whole cavity of the chest; and yet no unpleasant consequences ensued! nor does he feel any inconvenience from the presence of the silver tube.—*Missouri Med. and Surg. Journal.*

THE STRAWBERRY LEAF—A VALUABLE AUXILIARY IN THE TREATMENT OF CHRONIC DYSENTERY.

By J. C. O. Blackburn, M.D., of Barnesville, Georgia.

BELIEVING that a discovery, however simple, which has a tendency to alleviate the sufferings of man, should be given without reserve to

the medical world, I feel disposed to present to its consideration the claims of the Wild Strawberry. For the last three years I have been endeavoring to analyze this plant, and to try, if possible, to arrive at its medicinal properties. I was led to this investigation from the mere casual fact of seeing a dog, that was apparently in severe pain, swallowing its leaves. And here just let me add, that if physicians would more frequently lend an observing eye to the conduct of the brute creation, when afflicted with diseases peculiar to them, they might find remedies for diseases, which though at present obtainable, yet remain undiscovered. I have used the strawberry leaves in every form, for the cure of dysentery; but the formula most desirable is as follows: R. one pound of the green leaves, add to them one quart of good French brandy, and boil to one pint. Give of the strained liquor one table-spoonful every three hours, until the disease in question be relieved of its distressing symptoms. I will here add *one* case, of the origin of which I am totally ignorant.

Mr. B., a volunteer returned from Mexico, was taken with dysentery at Matamoras last August a year ago. He was placed under the direction of the Surgeon to the Georgia Regiment, who attended him until he pronounced his case incurable. The patient afterwards recovered sufficient strength to accompany the regiment to Monterey, and thence to Vera Cruz, where he was again prostrated by this disease. He reached home last July, with a constitution almost broken down, and placed himself under my care. I resorted to the use of every agent within my knowledge for the cure of his disease, but without success. I at length determined to try the strawberry leaves, as in the formula above-mentioned. He had taken but ten spoonfuls when he commenced to improve, and speedily recovered. He is now *entirely cured*, and able to attend to the duties of his calling. I have used the strawberry leaves in many cases since, with the same happy result.—*Southern Medical and Surgical Journal*.

THE BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

BOSTON, NOVEMBER 24, 1847.

Trustees of Insane Hospitals.—Since the publication of a paper by Dr. Wheeler, week before last, in this Journal, on the management of insane hospitals, it has occurred to us that the idea advanced in that communication in regard to having physicians for an advisory board, instead of gentlemen who have no acquaintance with mental maladies, is an exceedingly judicious one. It is customary for trustees of these institutions to fill vacancies by selecting persons of sound judgment in every-day affairs, and who have both leisure and inclination to give, without charge, as much time to the pecuniary interest of the charity, as may be necessary for its security and prosperity. Such boards must of course depend much on