the union of the fracture so firm, that at the patient's earnest solicitation, Mr. B. gave him permission to return to his duties, directing him still to wear his boot, and to continue the use of his crutches.

The first week after this, the patient threw aside one of his crutches, the next week, growing tired of his boot, he threw it aside, together with his other crutch, and when seen by Mr. B., some considerable time after, the fractured leg was as firm as the other.

OPHTHALMOLOGY.

33. *Destructive Ophthalmia, with extensive Suppuration of the Cellular Membrane, and severe affection of the Knee-joint, occurring after Premature Delivery.*—By A. M. M'WHINNIE, F.R.C.S. (*Proceedings of Royal Med. Chirug. Soc.*, Jan. 11.) In the early part of last spring, the author was requested to visit Mrs. M——, a lady, aged 40, of spare habit of body, but strong constitution and active mind. She had suffered several previous miscarriages, and had now been delivered, on the 7th of March, of a four months' child, which had been for some time dead in the uterus, and it was believed that the system was contaminated by the retention of the decomposed fetus. Much serious indisposition and constitutional disturbance preceded and followed the expulsion of the fetus, and which manifested themselves locally on the second or third day after delivery, by inflammation of the contents of the right orbit: it was found that the globe was much more prominent than that of the other eye, and it was apprehended that an abscess might be forming behind the organ; the cornea, which had lost much of its transparency, was nearly concealed by tumefied conjunctiva, of a crimson colour, which distended the palpebræ, and added materially to their projection. Leeches and belladonna had been applied, and mercury also administered, on account of inflammation of the iris and tunics generally. A few scarifications were made into the vascular conjunctiva, with the view of relieving the chemosis.

At this time the patient became weakened by several attacks of uterine hemorrhage which was arrested by the ergot of rye and cold lotions. The mercury, which had affected the gums, was consequently discontinued. Quinine was now liberally administered, with a sustaining diet.

On the 28th the vision was entirely gone; and, considering the eye to be irremediably lost, I advised the whole treatment to be directed to sustain the system, and repress the uterine hemorrhage, which had returned, and was producing great exhaustion. The quinine was therefore continued, with a larger quantity of sulphuric acid.

In the meantime, the right lower extremity became stiff and swollen; the calf of the leg became swollen and tense, and a large quantity of matter was evacuated by an incision. Abscesses about the knee-joint, and others in different parts of the limb, were opened immediately on being detected: their contents consisted generally of well-formed pus; the integuments were not materially discolored.

On the 12th of April, the right knee-joint had become the seat of painful swelling from effusion into its cavity; and its several structures suffered from the effects of the most destructive inflammation. In fact, it was evident that the whole articulation was extensively disorganized. A very large abscess subsequently made its appearance in the upper part of the thigh, and was opened near to Poupart's ligament.

From this time Mrs. M—— steadily improved in every respect. The knee yielded gradually to passive extension, and though nearly ankylosed at the date of the last report, the patient is able to support herself on the affected limb. The eye was reduced to a third of its normal size, and had receded to the back of the orbit; the tunics had not ulcerated.—*London Med. Gaz.*, Jan. 1847.