

portion of the time in supposing that he was the subject of and in constant danger of poisoning from chloroform. On the 4th he still exhaled some of the odour of this substance, although he had not employed any of it since the 27th June. His attacks of asthma had ceased, and he left the establishment 8th of August. Seen since that time, however, it has been found that his asthma has returned; but his reason has continued free, and he declares he has not again attempted the use of chloroform.—*Med. Times & Gaz.*, Nov. 21, 1857, from *Union Med.*, Nos. 106 and 112, and *Journ. de Pharm.*, Oct.

50. *Death from Chloroform*.—Mr. C. HEATH, House Surgeon to King's College Hospital, gives the following report of this:—

"The patient was a female, aged 17, under Mr. Partridge's care, with syphilitic warts and mucous tubercles. She was admitted July 8, and had had chloroform administered twice, in order that the sores might be touched with nitric acid, and on both occasions not the slightest ill effect was produced. On Friday evening last chloroform was again administered for the same purpose; only a drachm was put in the inhaler (Snow's), and as soon as she became unconscious the inhaler was removed, and the acid applied. I and my assistant (who administered the chloroform) then went to see another patient in the same ward, and then washed our hands, during which time the patient was moving her legs about much as they do when recovering, and in addition she made water over the bed. I gave directions to the nurse to apply a poultice as usual, and left the ward, having been up to the bed first without noticing anything unusual about the patient. In a few minutes the nurse came down for some medicine for another patient, and mentioned that this one was looking very pale; I sent up Mr. Liddon to see her at once; he found her pale and senseless, dashed some water over her, and called me, and I went up immediately. I found her pulseless and cold, and immediately commenced artificial respiration (Marshall Hall), and sent for the galvanic battery; this was brought and applied without effect, and the artificial respiration was continued for twenty-five minutes without the slightest effect being produced.

*Post-mortem*.—Great thickening of mitral valves, and organized lymph in the pericardium, and attached to surface of heart. Other organs healthy."—*Med. Times and Gaz.*, Aug. 15, 1857.

51. *Poisoning by Twelve Drachms of Laudanum; Recovery*.—Dr. G. C. GIBB records (*Lancet*, July 25, 1857) a remarkable case in which twelve drachms of laudanum were swallowed, with a suicidal intent, by a gentleman seventy-two years of age, healthy and temperate, and not in the habit of using opium. No symptoms of poisoning occurred; the patient passed a restless, sleepless night, and nine hours after the laudanum was taken spontaneous vomiting occurred, and under careful treatment he entirely recovered.

52. *Acute Poisoning by Phosphorus*. By Dr. TH. NITSCH. —A soldier, æt. 21, previously healthy, was received into hospital on the 21st of May. On closely interrogating the patient he admitted that on the 19th he had attempted self-destruction: that he had first swallowed all the mercury in a barometer, but that this passing away by his bowels, he determined on resorting to phosphorus. On the evening of the 20th, he took the ends of six ordinary packets of phosphorus matches and in three hours afterwards was seized with vomiting, which occurred frequently; and during his passage to the hospital, a large quantity of the matches were expelled from the stomach. On being received into the military hospital, his pulse was frequent, and tongue loaded; his head was hot, and he complained chiefly of headache. Auscultation and percussion revealed only a somewhat increased area of hepatic dulness. With the view of removing from the stomach the phosphorated ends of the matches which remained, an emetic of ipecacuanha and tartarized antimony was given; cold applications were directed to the head, and subsequently magnesia milk in considerable quantity was administered. After the emetic, the stomach ejected a greenish fluid which contained portions of undigested food, mucus, and some ends of the phosphorus matches. The fluid did not emit any odour of phosphorus. On