most desirable to put an immediate stop to the paroxysm, if there be nothing else gained, (although that is not a question where there is congestion,) and the quinine can be given afterwards to prevent a return. I have been asked, whether the relief obtained be adequate to the loss of blood. Such an interrogator will not hastily become a Sangrado.

I am your constant reader,

ROBERT RAMBLEWAY, M.D.

Lincolnshire, April 28, 1829.

[At the London Medical Society on April 6th, a great deal of discussion took place relative to the fluidity of blood in cases of sudden death. It seems a pity that so much time as to the question of fluidity should occupy the talented members. Dr. Walshman states, that "if the living principle of the blood be instantaneously destroyed, coagulation and rigidity cannot take place." How is that to be known? Why not say there is an excess of vitality retained? It is easy to make assertions, otherwise Dr. Gregory would not have said that buffy blood was the cause of disease; as to hunting the hare to death, it merely shows there are no rules without exceptions, save such as Tristram Shandy's. The following circumstance attracted my notice a good deal at the time it occurred. A "game" hare was started in coursing, and an excellent greyhound, of extraordinary fleetness, let go after her; the chase lasted some time, and when we reached them, the hare was dead and stiff, presenting the greatest possible rigidity; the dog was rather more than fifty yards from the hare, and nearly dead too: the dog did not kill the hare, she died from exhaustion. Why was there rigidity of the muscles?]

HYDROPHOBIA.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In a late number of a periodical publication, a letter was addressed to the editor by a correspondent signing himself "T. G." complaining of the non-publication of the particulars of a case of hydrophobia, which occurred to a Mr. Hicks, which Mr. Hicks professes to have cured. I have since been anxiously looking for Mr. Hicks's statement, but he has taken no notice of it. I shall, therefore, beg the insertion of these few lines in one of your earliest numbers, that Mr. Hicks may not have the opportunity of saying he did not see any letter on the subject. Mr. Hicks must be aware, that an advertisement in a newspaper of a cure for hydrophobia, *peculiar* to himself,

would fix on him the stigma of quackery, and he would lose the rank among his professional brethren, which I believe he has hitherto possessed. Surely he cannot hesitate a moment. It may be, as "T. G." supposes, a case of hysteria, for the diseases are often so similar as to puzzle many medical men.

I am, Sir, yours very truly,

A MEDICAL PUPIL.

May 3d, 1829.

BLISTERS IN PERIODICAL HEMICRANIA.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Having had lately several cases of periodical hemicrania under my care, which resisted the usual mode of treatment, I was induced, in order to remove or palliate so distressing a malady, to try the effect of blisters applied to the abdomen during the fit, the result of which has exceeded my most sanguine expectations. If the blister be applied during the paroxysm, I have invariably found it either remove the fit, or materially shorten its duration.

Knowing your willingness to insert any thing calculated to improve the profession of which you are so distinguished a member, I was induced to transmit to you an account of the above successful mode of treatment.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

FORBES WINSLOW.

Bright Walton, Berks,

April 28, 1829.

SUPPRESSION OF THE LOCHIA.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Will you allow me to inquire through the medium of your Journal, whether the ergot of rye when exhibited in cases of lingering labour, has not a tendency to suppress the lochia. In two cases in which I gave it, there was no lochial discharge. I am by no means certain, that the ergot was the sole cause of its suppression; but stating this fact, I am anxious to inquire of those whose experience enables them to give information on the subject, whether this circumstance is attributable to the action of the above valuable medicine. In the cases to which I allude, the power of the ergot in inducing uterine contraction was admirably exemplified.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A.

Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire,

May 4th, 1829.