(4.) It should always precede transfusion itself, especially in cases of loss of blood, as by it life may be maintained during the critical moment, which is often lost in preparing the instruments for the transfusion.

If the auto-transfusion suffices, it shows that a transfusion is unnecessary, and becomes in this way a good means of diagnosis.

The author then discusses the various forms of anæmia in their relations to the quantity of blood and its pressure.

In the author's experiments the transfusion was, of course, made with the natural blood. The principal danger in this case is that of coagulation or the introduction of air, which the author reduced to a minimum by using merely two canulæ, one for the artery and one for the vein, and connecting them by short bits of rubber tubing, with an intermediate glass tube. He recommends direct transfusion, and to avoid complicated apparatus. For indirect transfusion he considers a constant pressure of mercury, and adds that preliminary warming of the blood is unnecessary, as a cold temperature delays the coagulation, and Malgaigne, Polli, and Casse found no harm to be done by the injection of blood at the ordinary temperature.

Since the introduction of defibrinated blood diminishes the coagulability, transfusion with it must be rejected when there is a fresh wound, or escape of blood.

Transfusion is a means of saving life, the loss of which is imminent either from certain acute diseases, want of blood, or asphyxia of the tissues. It is evident that for man undefibrinated human blood is the best, but the blood of animals may be used when it has no poisonous influence on the system. It is desirable to find some animal which may be obtained more readily than lambs, and the proposal to try dogs is worth experiment.

Dr. Lesser ends his interesting and original lecture with a final recommendation of auto-transfusion.

EMBOLISM OF THE PULMONARY ARTERIES IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE APPLICATION OF ELASTIC BANDAGES TO THE LOWER EXTREMITIES (ESMARCH'S METHOD.)¹

BY J. V. MASSARI.

THE bandages were applied after a confinement in which the patient, in consequence of placenta prævia, had become extremely anæmic, and was but insufficiently affected by restoratives. The symptoms of anæmia disappeared remarkably quickly, and returned again immediately, when, in consequence of violent pain, the bandages were twice loosened

¹ Translated, by H. P. Bowditch, M. D., from the *Wiener medicinische Wochenschrift*, 1875, No. 48, noticed in *Centralblatt für die medicinische Wissenschaften*, 1876, page 368.

This is an instructive commentary on the last article. — Eds.

for a short time. Their third removal, thirty-two hours after delivery, was followed by sudden collapse, dyspnoea, violent heart-beats, and death in two hours, in spite of a re-application of the bandages.

Clots were found in the pulmonary arteries of the third order, and similar ones in the varicose saphena veins. The author regards the bandaging as the cause of the coagulation, and considers its employment contra-indicated by a varicose condition of the veins. He also gives a caution against the too prolonged application of the bandages.

CASE OF SLOUGHING OF THE SCROTUM; RECOVERY WITHOUT CASTRATION.

BY DRS. I. F. GALLOUPE AND T. T. GRAVES, OF LYNN.

ON the 29th of December last, F. B., twenty-one years of age, and in good health, while at work near a revolving shaft moved by steam power had his apron and pantaloons caught and entirely torn off. On examination it was found that the scrotum had been included with the clothing, and torn off entire as far as the inguinal canals; on the right side the wound extended somewhat higher than that point, the skin covering the penis was torn, and that of the perinæum stripped off back to the anus. The testes and spermatic cords were left uninjured, but completely uncovered.

It was thought best to replace the scrotum, hoping that a portion of it at least would not slough, which hope was not entirely disappointed. The only alternative seemed to be to remove the testicles, to do which all that would have been necessary would have been to cut the cords and secure the vessels. During the examination, and at the dressings subsequently, the testes were separated and laid upon the groins, to bring the wound of the perinæum the better into view. On the third day the scrotum had sloughed, except a piece about an inch and a half square upon the left side of the penis. The entire wound was dressed with cotton-wool soaked in an aqueous solution of carbolic acid, and no other dressing was used throughout the treatment. Healthy granulations soon covered the wound and testes; the spermatic cords began to shorten, and soon drew the testicles into contact with the external inguinal rings. The wound healed rapidly, the relic of the scrotum growing until the left testis was covered. The right one being still bare, it seemed as though it would be necessary to remove it. On examining the wound, however, on the 5th of February (the patient had not been seen for several days previously), it was found to have disappeared of its own accord, by escaping under the skin of the groin, and lay above the pubes. There it still remains, giving no discomfort or inconvenience whatever to the patient. The entire wound is now (February 27th) healed.