circumstances to the pump-well: it lies in the same bed of gravel, and is rather nearer to the ditch and privy than the pump-well was; the same soakage may be going on. The woman drank of that water, and she died.

It is important to contribute every possible proof to those already existing, that the prevalence of cholera and its degree of intensity are intimately connected with the quality of the water in use. A knowledge of that fact leads directly to the means of prevention. I will, therefore, state another fact in connexion with this outbreak, communicated to me by Dr. Ansell: a boy died of undoubted cholera, after twenty hours' illness, at Pelton-place, Bromley, on Friday, October 9th. He took a long walk into the forest, and on his return he lagged behind, which attracted his father's attention; and he turned, and saw him drinking at this very pump. This occurred on the fast-day, October 7th, in the afternoon, and on the 9th, at five o'clock A.M., he was attacked.

District of the Local Board of Health of West Ham,
October 22nd, 1857.

REPORT OF A CASE OF

EXCISION OF THE ELBOW-JOINT OF AN INFANT.

By A. M. EDWARDS, Esq., M.R.C.S.

(Reported by H. BRABANT, Esq.)

MARY L.—, aged fourteen weeks, of a strumous appearance, and is the child of respectable parents living in Edinburgh. About the end of last May, her left elbow-joint was slightly twisted when she was being dressed. It inflamed, became much swollen, and the child appeared to suffer intense pain. After continued poulticing, an abscess burst midway between the olecranon and inner condyle. The child now refused all kinds of food, was almost continually crying, and, if it dropped asleep at any time, soon awoke with a start and a scream.

About a month from the receipt of the injury the child was placed under the care of Mr. Edwards, who recommended excision of the joint, which he accordingly performed June 25th, Dr. Skinner keeping the little patient under the influence of chloroform, and Mr. Mackinnon compressing the brachial artery. The operation was performed in the usual manner by the H incision, and the bones divided with a small bone forceps. The joint was almost completely disorganised, no cartilage remaining, except on the head of the radius, which was, however, removed. The ulnar nerve, which was not observed until the bones were taken away, appeared white and glistening, and the thickness of a knitting-wire. No blood was lost. After the operation the child slept, and on waking took the breast eagerly. As the wound healed, the general health improved, and she is now a fine healthy child. She moves her left arm about freely, and the false joint is sufficiently flexible to allow of the thumb reaching the mouth.

October, 1857.

ON A CASE OF TRANSFUSION.

By JOHN WHEATCROFT, Esq., M.R.C.S., L.S.A.,
Cannock.

IN THE LANCET of October 3rd, there appeared a case of transfusion of blood, which operation I again performed successfully on the 25th inst. The following are the particulars:—

I was summoned to see Mrs. —, aged thirty-two, on the 24th instant. I found her in an almost exsanguined condition. A terrible gush of blood per vaginam had suddenly occurred, followed by coagula two or three pounds in weight. Her neighbours with difficulty got her up stairs, and again hæmorrhage set in frightfully. I found her lying on the bed in a state of great exhaustion; face white and anxious; lips blanched; skin and extremities cold; pulse small, very feeble, and rapid, 120 per minute.

I immediately plugged the vagina, administered yolk of egg with a little brandy, enjoining upon the attendant strict attention to the ordinary methods adopted in uterine hæmorrhage. On visiting the case four hours afterwards, I found the plug right, and the bleeding had been arrested; a little more colour in the lips; the pulse 100, but small and thready; complain e

much of giddiness and severe uterine pain: she was three months advanced in pregnancy. I then gave her small doses of tincture of opium, but vomiting having supervened, every dose, together with the egg, was rejected. Small doses of sulphuric ether arrested the sickness. I left her, apparently going on favourably, but in four hours was again hastily summoned. She had complained of severe expulsive pain, violent retching accompanied it, and expelled the plug, together with a large coagulum; the flooding recommenced, and I found her lying in a large pool of blood. I could detect no foetus either in the bed or the vagina; the os uteri was too high to be reached; the skin and extremities had again become cold, the surface of the body as white as snow; pulse almost imperceptible; the breathing gasping; face very anxious; great restlessness; loss of vision; eyes sunk and leaden.

Able assisted by J. Blackford, Esq., and Mr. Samuel Wheatcroft, I transmitted about two pounds of blood from the husband. The change was immediate, (I had previously re-plugged the vagina:) the colour returned to her lips, the eye became brilliant, the pulse distinct and firm, the restlessness vanished, the breathing became normal, and she now looks, with the exception of her whitened skin, as well as I ever saw her. Although complaining of giddiness and tightness across the brow, she is quite cheerful. The foetus has not been expelled. I have removed the plug, and there is not a drop of blood to be seen. The plug here was as valuable as the transfusion.

Permit me to suggest the trial of this operation in the last stage of low typhus and the collapse of Asiatic cholera when every other means have failed.

Cannock, October, 1857.

A Mirror

OF THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY IN THE HOSPITALS OF LONDON.

Nulla est alia pro certo noscendi via, nisi quam plurimas et morborum et dissectionum historias, tam aliorum proprias, collectas habere et inter se comparare.—MORGAGNI. *De Sed. et Caus. Morb.* lib. 14. Proœmium.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.

MOST EXTENSIVE INJURY TO THE THIGH, GROIN, AND PERINEUM; DISARTICULATION OF THE HIP-JOINT; DEATH FIVE HOURS AFTERWARDS.

(Under the care of Mr. LANE.)

IN the earlier part of the present year, we placed upon record three cases, in which disarticulation at the hip-joint was performed in some of the London hospitals (see pages 6, 31, and 343, vol. i., 1857), and we then took the opportunity of pretty fully considering this highly important operation. We to-day add another instance, which makes the ninth which has been performed since the year 1852. All the others have appeared in our "Mirror," with the exception of Mr. Tatum's case at St. George's Hospital, which briefly follows Mr. Lane's case. There are many points of similarity between Mr. Lane's patient and Mr. Erichsen's, at University College Hospital. Both had suffered the most serious injuries by the passage of railway trucks over one thigh; both were admitted in a state of collapse; and both survived but a few hours after the operation, which was, moreover, performed in each by transfixion, and very little blood was lost. Mr. Lane passed his knife from the inner to the outer side of the front of the joint, making the anterior flap first, but necessarily smaller than it would have been from the lacerated condition of the soft parts; the capsule was then opened, the head disarticulated, and a large posterior flap formed. The patient survived the operation only five hours.

Of the nine cases now recorded, in six the operation was performed for disease, and three for injury. The latter succumbed very shortly afterwards, or in the relative number of one, two, and five hours. Of those for disease, three recovered, one died two hours after, another two days, and a third ten days after removal of the limb.

On the next occasion in which it may be found necessary to perform this operation, we will briefly consider all of these cases, in a tabular form.