7. Arsenic, protochloride of palladium, iodate of potash, anhydrous tartaric acid. Mix.

The protochloride of palladium is so delicate a test, that water containing only $\frac{1}{450000}$ part of iodine acquires from it a perceptible black tinge. Tartaric acid is employed in this combination from possessing the property of decomposing the iodate of potash, and thus setting free the iodine.

8. Arsenic, resin of jalap, anhydrous sulphate, or perphosphate of iron. Mix.

Resin of jalap, when properly prepared, forms a white powder, resembling starch.

II. *Combinations in which the supervention of a BLUE colour, or colours approximating thereunto, constitutes the means of Self-detection.*

1. Arsenic, anhydrous sulphate of iron, anhydrous prussiate of potash. Mix.

Becomes blue on exposure to the air, when intermixed with any moist substance. Ferrocyanide of potassium forms a white precipitate with the pure sulphate of the protoxide of iron, but a blue one if the iron be in a higher state of oxidation; this a few moments' exposure to the air always effects.

2. Arsenic, narceia, starch. Mix.

Narceia is a peculiar vegeto-alkaline base, discovered by Pelletier in opium. It exists in the form of white acicular prisms, inodorous, bitter, pungent, inert, and forms a blue compound with starch.

3. Arsenic, deoxidized (or colourless) indigo. Mix.

The white indigo prepared for this purpose should be well dried, by which its greediness for oxygen is materially prevented. In combination with an excess of lime a stable yellow compound is formed. If white indigo be intermixed with anhydrous sulphate of iron, a brownish-black colour is produced, which becomes blue by an excess of the sulphate. The combination of arsenic, white indigo, anhydrous tartaric acid, and anhydrous carbonate of soda, becomes instantly blue on the addition of water from the evolution of carbonic acid. Taking all points into consideration, the combination of arsenic and white indigo is one well calculated to be of practical utility.

4. Arsenic, morphia, iodic acid, or iodate of potash and tartaric acid, anhydrous sulphate of lime. Mix.

Pure morphia possesses the property of setting free the iodine of the iodic acid, which, with the starch, produces an obvious discoloration.

5. Arsenic, pulverized gum guaiacum, gluten, or flour. Mix.

One of the most remarkable properties of guaiacum is its turning blue by contact with gluten in the air.

6. Arsenic, iodate of potash, starch, anhydrous tartaric acid. Mix.

The iodate of potash is not so deliquescent as the iodide of potassium, while it is easily decomposed by tartaric acid. A convenient mode of preparing it is, to take of iodide of potassium, two parts; chlorate of potassa, three parts; fuse the iodide of potassium in a large Hessian crucible; remove it from the fire, and add, while still fluid, successive portions of the powdered chlorate of potassa, stirring well after each addition. When the matter ceases to froth up, cool, powder, and digest in tepid water, to dissolve out the chloride of potassium, when the residue may be dissolved in hot water, and crystallized.

7. Arsenic, ultramarine decolorized by an acid, anhydrous carbonate of soda. Mix.

Pure ultramarine has its colour removed by any of the mineral or vegetable acids.

8. Arsenic, Prussian blue, decolorized by means of the hydrated oxide of sodium, anhydrous tartaric acid. Mix.

It is remarkable that *common soda* should possess the property to decolorize Prussian blue, and that this colour should be restored by the neutralization of the alkali with the mineral or vegetable acids.

9. Arsenic, hæmatine, protoxide of barium. Mix.

10. Arsenic, hæmatine, neutral or basic acetate of lead. Mix.

Hæmatine is the colouring principle of logwood, but when quite pure is almost destitute of colour. Baryta water turns it blue, the intensity of which heightens, and ultimately passes to a red-brown on exposure to the air. With acetate of lead, hæmatine gives a white precipitate, but which rapidly acquires a blue colour, by absorbing oxygen.

(To be continued.)

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL has had a bequest of £1000 from the late Mr. T. Ansaldo Hewson.

ON THE TREATMENT OF HYSTERICAL FITS BY TARTARIZED ANTIMONY.

By J. LOCKHART CLARKE, Esq., Surgeon, Pimlico.

THE length and severity of many of the paroxysms of hysteria, the state of exhaustion in which they leave the patient, as well as the anxiety and alarm excited in the minds of her friends, render the successful treatment of these distressing cases a matter of considerable importance. Every medical man has too often witnessed the complete failure of stimulants, anti-spasmodics, and the other means usually employed on these occasions. Some time since, on seeing a case of great severity, which had lasted nearly five hours, it occurred to me that the frightful spasms and contortions might be relieved by the administration of tartarized antimony. I accordingly ordered half a grain of this medicine to be taken every ten minutes till sickness ensued. The patient vomited a large quantity of undigested food and acid fluid, when the paroxysms (which abated as soon as nausea commenced) at once ceased, and complete consciousness returned. Since the occurrence of this case, I have adopted the same kind of treatment in several others, with uniform success; but I now find it better to administer a full emetic at once, instead of waiting for the slow operation of small repeated doses. I have also found this treatment very serviceable in many of the convulsions of children.

Warwick-street, Eccleston-square, Jan. 1851.

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, tum aliorum proprias, collectas habere et inter se comparare.—MORGAGNI. *De Sed. et Caus. Morb.*, lib. 14. Proœmium.

GUY'S HOSPITAL.

Cicatrization of an Ulcer promoted by the Electric Moxa.

(Under the care of Mr. BRANSBY COOPER.)

It has generally been observed that new and partially successful therapeutical agents create such enthusiasm, and raise such sanguine expectations, that their virtues are readily believed to be universal. Judging by analogy, practitioners are inclined to make experiments with the new remedy on a great variety of diseases; the appearance of success causes the wonderful agent to be more and more extolled, until a sudden reaction occurs; and the once useful remedy is again dis-trusted and finally forgotten. If we take electricity and galvanism, for instance, in their character of remedial agents, we shall have a good example of the length to which enthusiasm may go, and of the discredit into which a too highly praised and too universally applied remedy may fall. Galvanism is, however, far from having altogether lost its ground in a therapeutical point of view, for it is rendering services so palpable and evident in nervous affections that it can hardly be entirely neglected, though it is far from holding the sway it did some years ago. It is principally in cases of paralysis either of a part of the body, or of a set of muscles supplied by a single nerve, or else in certain convulsive diseases, that we have had occasion to see it applied in the London hospitals, and we shall take an early opportunity of recording several cases where the application of electricity was followed by very satisfactory results.

Galvanism has lately been used at Guy's Hospital to promote the cicatrization of a very obstinate ulcer; and in thus having recourse to a galvanic current, Mr. Cooper was reviving a method which he had applied in the same institution, under similar circumstances, several years previously. We heard Mr. Cooper state, in a clinical lecture, that his attention was formerly directed to the electric moxa, by Dr. Hull, of the United States of America. Dr. Hull's object was principally the restoration of skin where much integument had been lost around ulcers, &c.; and he used to place the