piece of iron was found in it, firmly embedded in a mass of exudation-matter (on the inner side of the sclerotic), in the centre of a firm, fibrous cord, which appeared to be the shrunk and disorganised retina.

March 23rd.—The right eye has improved so much since the extirpation of the other four days ago that the patient is now able to read words of Jaeger 16. The inflammatory symptoms have greatly subsided. The cornea and pupil are clearer. There is still, however, but little reflex from the fundus.

30th.—Reads words of Jaeger 10. The refracting media are much clearer, and the outline of the optic disc can be indistinctly seen with the ophthalmoscope.

The patient ceased to attend the hospital after this date, but returned home to Yorkshire. He writes, however, in the middle of October that his right eye is strong and well, and its sight so much improved that he is able to follow his employment as superintendent of an iron forge.

Clinical Remarks by Mr. Wells.—Injuries from foreign bodies—e.g., splinters of steel, glass, gun-caps, &c.—which have become lodged within the eye, are a very frequent cause of sympathetic mischief. Inflammation of the iris, ciliary body, and choroid may supervene upon the injury, producing subsequently atrophy of the eyeball, which may shrink down to a small shrivelled stump. But even then the danger of sympathetic inflammation in the other eye, if this has hitherto escaped, is not past; for these stumps, which contain a foreign body, are a source of constant risk as long as they remain painful to the touch and show signs of irritability. Many years may elapse after the injury, and the wounded eye be free from all inflammation, and be perfectly quiescent, when suddenly it becomes irritable, and symptoms of sympathetic irritation or inflammation show themselves in the other. In such cases the only remedy is the immediate extirpation of the injured eyeball; indeed, it is wiser to remove it at once after the injury, if its sight is lost, or very greatly and irremediably impaired, more especially if a foreign body is lodged deeply within the eye, or the patient resides at a distance from medical aid, so that a careful watch cannot be kept over him, and the first symptoms of sympathetic mischief at once detected.

ST. MATTHEW'S INFIRMARY,

BETHNAL-GREEN WORKHOUSE.

CASE OF PARTIAL PLACENTA PRÆVIA, TERMINATING SUCCESSFULLY WITHOUT MANUAL INTERFERENCE.

(Under the care of Mr. EDWARD ADAMS.)

D. F.—, aged twenty-five years, married, was admitted into the lying-in department, to be confined of her sixth child, on the 6th of May last, when she had acute labour-pains, but not of a bearing-down character. About a month previously she began to have a copious discharge of blood at intervals. On admission, the os was about the size of a half-crown piece, and patulous. There was hæmorrhage during the pains, which came on about every quarter of an hour. Ordered cold wet cloths to be applied to the vulva, with cold drinks, such as tea, milk, beef-tea, &c.; also dilute sulphuric acid, ten drops in camphor water, and a grain of opium. She was examined again four or five hours afterwards. The os was found cushiony, and dilated to the size of a five-shilling piece. Hæmorrhage was not alarming. The placenta could be felt adherent posteriorly; but anteriorly the finger passed into the body of the uterus, and came in contact with the head of the foetus.

At 7 A.M. next morning the child was born suddenly, and afterwards the placenta came away. The child was born alive. Uterine hæmorrhage profuse, controlled by cold water poured from a height on to the abdomen, and tight bandaging with a padded book; and a saline mixture, with acid and opium, in camphor water, internally. On the 9th the child was found to be jaundiced; the mother losing less. On the 10th the patient was ordered a pint of beer, and meat diet. Mother and child doing well. The mother was allowed to sit up a little on the 12th. Rapid convalescence from the last date, and the patient discharged at the end of a month well. It might be added that brandy was cautiously administered during labour.

Clinical Records

OF

THE PARIS HOSPITALS.

In a preceding record we alluded to the valuable clinical data which may be gathered from the reports published at regular intervals by M. Besnier on the "medical constitution" of the Paris Hospitals. M. Besnier, who is the secretary of the Société Médicale des Hôpitaux, receives from the various physicians attached to the Paris hospitals a monthly report of the cases of interest observed in their several wards. These different accounts are then carefully compared and classified by the secretary, and form a useful mine of information. The last report for October contains many noteworthy facts, which will fitly find their place in this department, and which for that purpose we have arranged and epitomised.

USEFUL EFFECTS OF IPECACUANHA IN HÆMOPTYSIS.

During the month of October cases of phthisis were, as usual, extremely prevalent in the Paris hospitals. In several cases a remarkable liability to hæmoptysis was observed under the influence of the then reigning "medical constitution." In a great many instances this symptom was most happily amended by the employment of strong doses of ipecacuanha—as much as four grammes, in a gum julep, given in two tablespoonfuls every hour.

DIPHTHERIA AND STATISTICS OF TRACHEOTOMY.

Twelve deaths out of twenty-nine cases of diphtheria are inscribed on the register of the Paris hospitals for the month of October—a proportion exceeding that of the former month.

Tracheotomy was performed in seventeen cases, and was successful in five only. Besides, it must be added, that even in these cases the success could not be surely stated, as the parents sometimes remove their children from the hospital before a cure has definitely taken place. In the unsuccessful cases of tracheotomy death occurred immediately after the operation, or it was brought on by broncho-pneumonia.

STATISTICS OF RHEUMATISM; A CASE OF RHEUMATIC PNEUMONIA; COMPARATIVE RESULTS OF VARIOUS REMEDIAL AGENTS IN RHEUMATISM.

Out of a total number of 262 cases of rheumatism during the period we have mentioned, four deaths only are recorded. The subacute form prevailed. Under the care of M. Frémy, at Lariboisière Hospital, a decided case of rheumatic pneumonia was observed. The inflammation of the lungs gave way on the appearance of pain and swelling in the joints. In the wards of Dr. Tardieu, at the Hôtel Dieu, various remedial agents were comparatively tried by Dr. Hayem, the clinical officer. Of digitalis, sulphate of quinine, and bicarbonate of soda, Dr. Hayem gives the preference to the last-named substance, especially in the subacute forms of the disease.

BENIGN CHARACTER OF SCARLATINA IN PARIS AS COMPARED WITH WHAT IT IS IN LONDON.

M. Besnier compares the mortality of scarlatina in the great European centres of population. In 1866 there were 1885 deaths in London out of a population of about 3,000,000; in Berlin, 264 deaths out of 658,251 inhabitants; in Vienna, 396 deaths out of a population of 590,000; and in Paris only 82 deaths out of 1,825,274 inhabitants. Whilst the mortality from scarlatina amounted in London, during the end of October and beginning of November of the present year, to 229 cases, in the city of Paris there were only 19 deaths during the same period. M. Besnier draws from this fact the following important conclusion:—That contagion, properly so called, plays but a secondary part in the transmission and propagation of epidemic diseases, even the most contagious. The contagious germ, he says, resides in Paris as well as in London; and the agglomerated population of the former city is particularly fit to propagate the disease. But there is now wanting in Paris that epidemic influence, without which contagion is reduced to its strictest