EFFICACY OF THE CHENOPODIUM OLIDUM
IN CHLOROSIS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In a disorder attended with such serious consequences to the female sex as chlorosis, which often lays the foundation of diseases terminating in death, I consider it the imperative duty of every medical practitioner to make known to the profession at large any remedy which he may have found useful in curing so important a malady. In recommending the extract. chenopodium olidum (goosefoot or sowbane) to the attention of the medical world as a remedy for chlorosis, I do not attach to myself the credit of discovering it, as I see the chenopodium vulvarium mentioned as an emmenagogue in Doctor Fox's Medical Dictionary of 1803. I have prescribed this medicine in several cases with uniform success, in doses of ten grains three times a day. During the administration of the remedy, attention must be paid to the state of the alimentary canal. I have found this treatment produce the catamenia in a very short time. It is likewise of great importance that I should state I have not found this remedy serviceable in amenorrhœa arising from plethora. In dysmenorrhœa I have had no opportunity of trying the chenopodium olidum, but I take the liberty of suggesting to my medical brethren the propriety of doing so. Perhaps uniting it with some of the usual remedies, as camphor and the extractum hyosiamii, might render it efficacious in that disease.

I remain, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
W. TAPLEY, M.R. C.S.

Brompton near Chatham, Sept. 22, 1830.

P.S.—The extract. chenop. olid. is prepared, I think, by Mr. Brand, chemist, Strand.

A CASE ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE GOOD EFFECTS OF WHAT DR. MACARTNEY DENOMINATES "WATER DRESSINGS."

By JOHN V. JACKSON, Surgeon.

CAPTAIN M. LODGE, commander of an American trader, whilst with his ship in Dublin, received in his thigh the contents of a pistol accidentally discharged at him as he was ascending from the cabin to go on deck; a slug, with which it was in part loaded, entered his thigh at about its middle and posterior part; the pistol being discharged from below, the slug took a course obliquely upwards and inwards, and presented itself immediately beneath the fascia, about two inches or two inches and a half

from the place at which it entered; previous to my arrival, an incision about an inch in length had been made by a gentleman present, over the surface of the slug, and an ineffectual attempt had been made to extract it, owing probably to the fascia being insufficiently divided; having enlarged the incision already made, it was carried down until the slug was completely denuded, which was then easily extracted by a pair of common forceps. No vessel requiring a ligature being divided, the wound being well cleansed, a *pledget of lint, dipped in cold water*, was put over them, *over which was placed a piece of oil silk* (as recommended by Dr. Macartney in his valuable lectures); this, with the exception of occasional aperients, constituted the whole of the treatment adopted; and so effectual was it, that at the expiration of ten days he was enabled to resume his duty; and during the period above named, he never endured ten minutes' pain. In clean incised wounds, as well as those received during dissections, this method of treatment has been found most beneficial, the parts to which it is applied immediately losing their morbid sensibility.

From the oil silk preventing evaporation, the parts are kept as it were in a continual vapour-bath; and probably to this cause, and to all atmospherical impressions being taken off, the good results attending this method of treatment may be ascribed.

Yavin, Yorkshire, April 23.

ELECTION OF CORONER

FOR THE
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX.

SKETCH OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

SEVEN candidates offered themselves for the office of coroner for Middlesex, immediately on the death of Mr. Unwin; the most prominent of these were, Mr. Baker, Mr. Burford, and Mr. Gude, sen. After the lapse of some days Mr. Wakley added himself to the number, and gave to the contest, agreeably to the language of his opponents, a character which it had never before possessed in this county. Four of the seven candidates retired soon after Mr. Wakley announced himself. The remainder continued the very active canvass which they had commenced, and obtained, as they respectively stated, "a sufficient number of promises to give them confident hopes of success," before Mr. Wakley was enabled to make his claims known to the freeholders. The starting of Mr. Gude, sen., it shortly appeared, was an artifice, for