occasions he has been seen to leap several feet from the ground, at others to be seized with convulsive movements of the mouth, and of the muscles of the face, and sometimes to make a retrograde movement of an extraordinary kind; at other times to run up and down as if in a rabid state. Ten grains of camphor is as much as should be employed. Dr. Edwards, of Paris, injected half a drachm; his patient, in a few minutes, felt a camphorous taste, and for twenty-four hours his breath exhaled a camphorous odour. He felt an indescribable uneasiness; he was anxious, without thinking himself in danger; he shed tears involuntarily. On going down stairs to get assistance, he was surprised to find that his body appeared so light that he seemed to skim along the floor without touching it. He began to stagger, his face became pale, he felt chilly, and was attacked with a sense of numbness in the scalp; a glass of wine was given him, and he gradually recovered, but for some time his mind was singularly affected.—*Ibid.*

13. *Mode of action of Digitalis.* By G. G. SIGMOND, M. D.—It is upon the heart and arterial system that digitalis acts; it decreases the irritability of the constitution, it diminishes the frequency of action of the heart, and hence the circulation through the system is so slow, that the kidneys have more time to take from the blood the watery portion which they excrete, for we have no reason to believe that those organs are stimulated to any increased action by the herb. The physiological reasoning upon the action of digitalis has been considered to be obscure, from its having been supposed that it diminished action in one instance, and excited it in another; but I should attribute the apparently newly-acquired energy of the kidneys, not to any stimulus imparted to them, but to their having a longer period to act upon the fluid which is detained in the renal vessels. Some authors have contended that digitalis is a powerful stimulant, that it produces flushed face, hot skin, restlessness, and all the symptoms of febrile action; and this you will find to be the case where, from a diseased state of the kidneys, the due separation of the fluid from the blood does not occur, or where, from pulmonary disease, the due transpiration does not take place; for the system of circulation is slowly carried on at first, but if no elimination from the blood occurs, the whole frame is thrown into disorder, and a febrile state is produced.

Some believe that digitalis only acts as an indirect sedative, and only when it accumulates in the system, and the experiments of Jörg, at Leipsic, are referred to; the herb was given to individuals in a state of health, in doses of a quarter of a grain of powder increased to three grains. It produced upon the alimentary canal marked effects, and this also occurred to Sandrart in his trials, when the digitalis was administered in powder; but I have before observed to you, that, in this form, it is liable to produce considerable irritation of the stomach: it likewise influenced the brain, a state resembling intoxication coming on. Upon the generative system its power was strongly marked, even to the excitement of seminal excretion in the male, and symptoms similar to the premonitory sensations which females experience at particular periods.

All these phenomena may depend upon the retardation, in the capillary vessels, of the blood; Dr. Mossman, in the year 1806, was the first who drew the conclusion, from its influence on the minute arteries, and the diminution of vascular action, that it was strictly a sedative; he went so far as to state that he could obviate pneumonic inflammation with as much certainty by it as he could arrest the progress of an intermittent fever by means of the bark of cinchona.—*Ibid.*

14. *On the powers of the Digitalis in Dropsy.* By G. G. SIGMOND, M. D.—There is no remedy to which, from its effects upon the urinary excretion, the name of diuretic is given, which more certainly, speedily, and effectually evacuates the hydropic fluid than this herb. You must, when you feel it right to employ it, be, however, upon your guard; never continue it too long, and always be very wary in attempting to increase your dose: it is not a remedy to be trifled with; it produces the most appalling effects where it has been injudiciously prescribed, and has been the fertile source of fatal sorrow to those who have indiscriminately recommended it, and to those who have followed bad advice. * * * *

With regard to the peculiar state of an individual who is labouring under effusion, you will find that digitalis will not only, generally speaking, be useless, but