after delivery, and during lactation; and these practitioners also attend to the diseases of new-born infants and children. Such is the province of the accoucheur, or rather obstetrician. I am not fond of innovation, or of introducing new terms into a profession which already contains so many; but I may be permitted to observe, that the English language is sufficiently copious and perfect to afford some word by which we can express the male midwifery practitioner, without our attempting to anglicise the gallican term accoucheur, as the profession in general seem to sanction, and some of our modern lexicographers have also adopted: for my own part, I shall always prefer the word obstetrician. That part of medicine which has for its object the consideration of the structure, functions, and diseases of the organs peculiar to females, is called midwifery, or the obstetric art, and this includes the arrangement that I have pointed out when describing the province of the obstetrician. We have no accurate terms which comprehend in a scientific and classic manner the anatomy, physiology, pathology, and therapeutics of the female organs of generation; nor for the process of parturition. From much consideration on these deficiencies, I would propose the following nomenclature, part of which is sanctioned by Hippocrates. The father and founder of medicine left a work entitled *Γυναικειῆς φύσεως*, on the nature of woman; another, *Παρθενειῶν*, on diseases of virgins; and a third, *Γυναικειῶν*, on diseases of women. The classification I propose is as follows:—1st, *Γυναικοτομία*, Gynecotomy, or the anatomy of woman; 2d, *Γυναικοφυσεωλογία*, Gynecophysiology, the physiology of woman; 3d, *Παρθενοςολογία*, Parthenosology, or diseases of unimpregnated woman; 4th, *Γενεσεωλογία*, Geneseology, on generation, or conception; 5th, *Εγκυονοςολογία*, Encyonosology, on diseases of pregnant woman; 6th, *Τόκολογία*, Tocology, on parturition; 7th, *Λοχειανοςολογία*, Lochianosology, on puerperal diseases; and, 8th, *Παιδονοςολογία*, Paidonosology, on diseases of infants and children. Such is the order I will adopt in the following lectures, as it is decidedly the most natural that could be devised, and is infinitely superior to any arrangement that has been hitherto adopted. The order of arrangement to be adopted is, 1st. The anatomy, physiology, and pathology of the female organs; 2d. On conception and its consequences; 3d. On diseases of pregnancy; 4th. On the mechanism and process of parturition, including the various classes of labours; 5th. On puerperal diseases; and, 6th. On diseases of infants and children. When I consider the vast importance of these subjects, I feel the great responsibility incurred by those who undertake to deliver lectures

on them. But I am confident that the opinions I shall advance will be, in general, agreeable to the experience of our best teachers, as they are confirmed by a very extensive personal observation, arising from ten years' active practice. I may further remark, that I devoted very particular attention to obstetric medicine, and had lately been in treaty with a most respectable medical publisher of this metropolis, with regard to the publication of a work on midwifery, which, I hope, shall shortly appear. The opinions I mean to advance, so far as they are personal, are founded on truth, whose immutability neither time or chance can ever overturn. So soon as gentlemen shall be sufficiently instructed in the principles of the obstetric art, a considerable number of patients will be supplied them under my own superintendence, and they will have extensive opportunities of acquiring practical knowledge, which I can amply afford, through my official situation of physician-accoucheur to the Central Infirmary, Dispensary, and Metropolitan Lying-in Institution in Greville Street, Hatton Garden. Each pupil will be required to treat his respective patients as correctly and attentively as if they were in private life; and thus he will be afforded a safe and perfect initiation into the important duties of private practice. Examinations will be held twice a week on the subjects that may have been recently discussed, at which the pupils and their junior medical friends, may attend gratuitously. This plan will enforce the necessity of regular attendance, which the awful responsibility and important trust, that will be imposed on you hereafter, require; a solemn duty you owe your friends, and an act of honesty you owe society at large. I pledge myself to use my best exertions to afford instruction, and to be ever ready to promote the advancement and interests of those who may honour me by attending these lectures.

A CASE OF DISLOCATED HUMERUS, REDUCED TEN MONTHS AND A HALF AFTER THE DISPLACEMENT.

By NATHAN SMITH, M. D. Professor of Surgery in Yale College.

THIS was the case of a lady in Derby, Connecticut. The humeri had both been dislocated into the axillæ by a puerperal convulsion. One was reduced by Dr. Smith, at the end of seven months and a half after the accident; but it was thought not prudent to attempt the reduction of the other shoulder at that time, and another occasion did not present till the above time had

elapsed. The reduction was then accomplished without the use of violent force, or any mechanical apparatus. Gentle and long-continued extension was made upon the member; the knee of the surgeon was then placed beneath the axilla, and the bone being employed as a lever, the head was, without much difficulty, conveyed upward into the glenoid cavity.

The result of these cases should encourage us to attempt more frequently than is done the reduction of old dislocations. We believe that the frequency of failure in such attempts is often owing to the injudicious employment of the mechanical powers, it being presumed that the reduction requires the exercise of great force.—*Phi. Journal of Med.*

A CONVENIENT MODE OF REDUCING CERTAIN DISLOCATIONS OF THE HUMERUS.

Dr. BELVILLE, of Trenton, was called to a case of dislocation of the shoulder, in which he effected the reduction in the following manner:—

The patient was intoxicated, and very refractory, which made it extremely difficult to effect the reduction in the usual position. It occurred to the doctor, therefore, to place him upon the sound side on the floor, and to effect counter-extension, and the confinement of the patient at the same time, by passing a folded sheet beneath the dislocated shoulder, and directing an assistant to stand on it on each side of the patient, so as to confine him to the floor. The surgeon then grasping the wrist, made extension upwards, which can be done in that position with peculiar advantage, since we can lift with more power than we can pull horizontally. Counter-extension being made upon the scapula by the hand of an assistant, and the usual flexions impressed upon the bone, it was without difficulty reduced.

CASES ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE EFFICACY OF HYDROCYANIC ACID IN GASTRODYNIA.

By Dr. T. WOODFORDE, Taunton.

The hydrocyanic acid was first recommended in cases of pulmonic inflammation, and in phthisis, but it has by no means answered the expectations of its advocates in these diseases; nor can we be surprised at this, if we for a moment consider the pathology of phthisis. It is without doubt a valuable medicine in many cases of what is called spasmodic cough; and it may allay the cough in inflammation of the lungs, when it is out of proportion violent, as Dr. Elliotson remarks; and from its success in these ailments, I suppose it came to be recommended generally in phthisis, a species of reasoning unfortunately too common in medical history. But although it has no

claim to our support in these diseases, I think it will be found one of the most certain remedies we possess in a class of diseases, if not destructive to life, yet totally subversive of all enjoyment of it. I have exhibited it in many and various examples of severe pains of the stomach, with vomiting and other distressing symptoms, and nothing has appeared to me to have afforded such speedy and certain relief. The two following cases have been selected from their great severity, and the obstinacy with which they had resisted a long attack, in which all the articles of the materia medica, usually recommended in such disorders, had been in vain brought up.

Mrs. G., August 6, is subject to daily attacks of severe pain in the epigastric region, shooting through to the back, accompanied by great distention and eructation of flatus: these fits last from three to five hours, and are attended with a sense of great weakness and oppression; has nausea; bad taste of mouth; headach; bowels inclined to be costive; has been subject to disorders of the stomach for many years; present complaints of six weeks standing; has taken a variety of medicines without relief.

After having had a blister applied to the epigastrium, and having tried carminatives, oxide of bismuth, &c. for a considerable time, without any material benefit, she commenced on the 2d of September, taking two drops of the hydrocyanic acid three times a day, and increased the quantity gradually; all other medicine intermitted.

On the 14th she had taken four drops three times a day, and had had no return of pain for several days; she continued its use a few days longer, and has remained free from complaint since.

S. R., March 1827, complains of acute lancinating pains at the scrobiculus cordis, increased by taking any thing into the stomach, of vomiting of all ingesta, and frequently of a black fluid of acid taste. Bowels costive; tongue white; skin dry; anorexia; great emaciation; countenance anxious.

Present complaints have existed four or five months; attributes her illness to the sudden retrocession of a cutaneous inflammation of one arm.

A crop of pustules was produced on the epigastric region by the tartar emetic ointment, and kept discharging for some time, and a variety of medicines was exhibited internally, but no relief obtained.

She commenced with the acid as in the former case, and increased it to five drops, three times a day, and with the same good effects. She has, however, had several slight returns; but they have yielded to the same remedy.

Taunton, May 12.