Let him have two grains of calomel every third hour.

5th.—The mercury has produced salivation, therefore it is discontinued; the organ is not so tense; the angle which it forms with the abdomen approaching nearer to a right angle.

10th.—Left the hospital of his own accord; in fact, much against the wishes of Mr. Luke. The penis is more flaccid, and forms a right, instead of an acute angle, with the pubis.

After leaving the hospital, he returned to his former abode, having free intercourse with the same female, until he left England for Sydney. During this time he had erections, and complete communication; the former proceeding to the usual extent, and afterwards gradually subsiding to the state in which the organ was previously to the venereal organism.

On leaving England, (May 18th,) his condition was as follows: Corpus spongiosum flaccid, corpora cavernosa moderately tense, and forming only an angle of about 45° with the pubis.

By letter, dated September, the condition last described remained without alteration for more than three months after he left England, but after that became rapidly palliated, and is now quite removed. On his return home he was perfectly cured, and without any ill results from his accident.

The remarks required by a case of this kind are but few. The lesion appears to have been caused by effusion of blood into the cells of the corpora cavernosa, which remained in a semi-fluid condition. The time (four months) during which it continued is very remarkable, whilst the perfect recovery of the patient eventually, seems to show that any instrumental mode of cure should not be attempted, unless undoubted signs of gangrene appear. In a case treated by Mr. Calloway, and published in the *Medical Repository* for April, 1824, venesection, leeching, the warm bath, tobacco enemas, tartar emetic, and nitre, were exhibited, and camphorated mercurial ointment was rubbed into the part, but without any benefit; wherefore, on the sixteenth day after the erection occurred, the left crus of the penis was punctured with a lancet, and a large quantity of dark grumous blood let out. By pressing the part, both corpora cavernosa were emptied through the aperture, which was followed for a few days by the escape both of pus and blood. The patient recovered, but never regained the power of erection, and therefore remained impotent for the remainder of his life, forming a marked contrast to the success of the foregoing case. In Mr. C.'s case, it occurred during, and was not diminished by repeated connexion.

Commercial-road, March 19, 1845.

CASE OF ACUTE HYDROCEPHALUS TREATED SUCCESSFULLY.

By G. S. C. BUTLER, M.D., M.R.C.S.E., Castletown, Isle of Man.

APRIL 27TH, I was sent for to see a child, aged five years, of delicate constitution. Two days previous to my seeing her she complained of great pain about the epigastric region, great languor and pain in the head, very frequently picking her nose, and other inflammatory symptoms. Her mother gave her three grains of chloride of mercury at the time she first complained; the morning after, she had some senna and salts, which opened the bowels very freely, but did not in any way mitigate the urgent symptoms, which were unabated at my first visit.

When I first saw her she was lying in her mother's arms, with the head hanging back, seemingly unable to support its weight. The skin was hot and dry; the face flushed; the tongue parched; great suffused redness about the eyes; the pupils dilated; pain in the head very acute, and other symptoms of pyrexia; the bowels regular; there was great heat about the head; the pulse 140 per minute. Occasionally she uttered a piercing cry, and I ordered cold applications of vinegar and water to the head, also the following mixture:—Acetate of ammonia water, one ounce and a half; spirit of nitric ether, tartrate of antimony wine, each two drachms; distilled water, one ounce. Mix. A small spoonful to be taken every hour.

At my second visit, the same day, the child seemed better in every respect. The pulse was now 120, skin cooler, and tongue much the same. Ordered the mixture to be continued. Shortly after, I was called back, as all the former symptoms began again to appear with double severity. Four leeches were now applied to the temples, which bled very profusely after their removal.

28th.—The child slept well; the face flushed; pulse 120, and wiry; tongue furred; skin still very hot and dry; no passage from the bowels; great thirst; the eyelids half closed; pupils dilated; heat in head very great; mind perfectly sensible, but cross. Ordered the following:—Pulverized scammony, four grains; chloride of mercury, two grains; pulverized jalap, five grains. This medicine she threw up. Another of the same was given about half an hour after, which she retained. At ten P.M. the medicine had not affected the bowels. An injection of castor oil and oil of terebinth was given, but without effect. Cold to head as before.

29th.—Heat over the body still the same; pulse 128, and full; great thirst; tongue better in appearance; bowels opened twice very freely; the evacuations had all the appearance of the injection she had had the evening before; there was also a large quantity of scybala of a very light colour, and very offensive; pain referred to head; got a warm bath, and cold to the head during the immersion. Shortly after, the face became very much flushed, the eyes suffused, and the carotids beating very perceptibly. I took about two ounces and a half of blood from the arm, which had an effect upon her so as nearly to cause fainting. The pulse fell to about 100. Ordered the back of the head to be shaved, and a fly-blister to be applied; also two grains of the chloride of mercury to be given every two hours during the day, and friction with the strong mercurial ointment. After taking about four of the powders she seemed greatly better. The skin now became moist, the pulse softer and less frequent. Another warm bath was ordered, and a sixth of a grain of tartrate of antimony. This also relieved the feverish symptoms. The bowels were again opened, and a very dark fœtid evacuation was the result. Continue the calomel.

30th.—Passed a very restless night; kept tossing the head to and fro, and throwing the clothes off her, and frequently picking the blanket; pulse 130, softer; tongue more natural; skin and head cool; complains of pain in the epigastrium; thirst not so great. Warm turpentine to be applied over the seat of pain, and the powder to be continued as before.

May 1st.—Slept badly; bowels opened very freely during the night; pulse 130; tongue better; head better. Continue the mixture as before.—Six P.M. A red eruption, slightly elevated, was to be observed over the face and arms, upon the appearance of which all the head affliction began to subside. Continue powders and mixture.

2nd.—The eruption gone; pulse 120; tongue cleaner, but more red at the edges than usual; skin and head much cooler; the pupils dilate and contract more naturally. Took a cup of tea, with a little bread soaked in it; thirst less.—Nine P.M. Bowels opened very freely, colour more healthy-looking; slight tenesmus. Ordered the chalk mixture: this, however, she did not take, as the tenesmus left without its aid. Slight tenderness over the whole abdominal viscera. Turpentine to be applied as before; cold still to the head. Child whines a good deal, and keeps the legs drawn up; thirst increasing; head cool; eyes seem very much sunken; face very pale; has a great inclination for food; asks frequently for an egg.

3rd.—Had a very restless night; great thirst; skin hot and dry; pulse 124, wiry; tenderness over the abdomen still continues; bowels regular; tongue red and furred; head hot, but not painful. Continue the cold applications to the head; the hands and arms to be washed with vinegar and water. Cold lemonade to be given ad libitum.

4th.—Much better; all the inflammatory symptoms quite gone; appetite returning; pulse 90; tongue clean; eyes brilliant; and not having had a bad symptom ever since, she has continued to improve up to this date.

May 21st, 1845.

FATAL HÆMORRHAGE FROM THE STOMACH AND INTESTINES; PURULENT INFILTRATION OF THE RIGHT LUNG.

By WILLIAM SMITH, Esq. Surgeon, Upper Berkeley-place, Bristol.

W. B.—, aged forty, a moderately strong man, of a bilious temperament, a nursery gardener; is generally much in the open air; not intemperate in his habits. Has an appearance of anxiety strongly marked on the countenance, as if in some degree he suffered from that depression of spirits which accompanies disordered stomach. He had been under my care with suppurating gland in the axilla for about six weeks. After its contents had been evacuated, it left a most troublesome sinus, which, however, was very nearly healed at the expiration of the period above named. From facts which I have learned since his death, he was then guilty of some convivial imprudences, and particularly of drinking some new rum, given him by a relative returned from the West Indies.

On July the 29th he was first taken ill, and on July 30th I saw him, when his symptoms were as follow:—Vomiting, (chiefly of bilious matter,) with continual diarrhoea; the evacuations watery, and accompanied with much tenesmus. There was great prostration of strength, shivering, and a rapid pulse, (110,) bounding under the finger yet easily compressed; slight soreness about the abdomen; the tongue yellow, and furred in the centre, with red edges and tip. The wound in the axilla not being quite well, I thought, from the symptoms, that an attack of erysipelas was impending, especially as he had had one during his illness, after using a stimulating injection to the sinus. Under the influence of calomel and opium, (calomel, eight grains; opium, two grains;

in two doses,) followed by effervescing draughts, the vomits and diarrhœa subsided the following day.

31st. The diarrhœa and vomiting had not returned. He has now a very slight cough; no difficulty in taking a full inspiration; the tongue brown and foul, the pulse rapid, the skin dry and hot. Ordered, to continue the effervescing draughts, and to take the following powders:—Tartarized antimony, one grain; calomel, twenty-four grains; nitrate of potass, two scruples; Dover's powder, 15 grains: for twelve powders, one every third hour.

August 1st.—I was called to him early in the morning, as he was vomiting blood. When I arrived, I found that, in a very short time, he had thrown up nearly three quarts of fluid blood, of a dark colour. The lips were pale and the cheeks sallow, the pulse quick, bounding, and not so much reduced as the great loss of blood and his general appearance would have led me to suppose. As the vomiting of blood still continued, I placed him in the upright position, and took from five to six ounces of blood from his arm; this produced immediate syncope. I then ordered him the following mixture:—Acetate of lead, twenty grains; Battley's solution of opium, two drachms; distilled vinegar, half an ounce; distilled water, eight ounces; two table-spoonfuls every third hour: the room to be kept cool, and a little cold water to be occasionally given him to drink.—Evening: A little better; the pulse still rapid; has vomited several times since, but the vomited matters contain no recently effused blood; they have much the appearance of coffee-grounds. Has passed several stools containing dark-coloured blood. Complains of the two table-spoonfuls of the mixture as being too much for his stomach. Ordered, a mustard-poultice to be applied to the pit of the stomach; a little cold brandy-and-water to be given him during the night, and the following pills to be taken immediately:—Acetate of morphia, one grain; extract of hyoscyamus, six grains; for two pills.

2nd.—Had slept a little during the night; towards morning again vomited dark-coloured blood; is very faint; pulse 120, and extremely compressible; tongue covered with dark sordes. Ordered, stimulants, arrowroot, with brandy, and beef-tea; a blister to be applied to the pit of the stomach. No evacuation per rectum since yesterday evening.—Evening: No vomiting since the morning; is, however, much weaker, and evidently in a sinking condition: he never rallied, in spite of the use of stimulants, &c.

On the morning of the third of August he passed a stool, consisting nearly entirely of clotted blood, and died almost immediately afterwards.

Post-mortem.—The mucous membrane of the stomach and intestines was of a purplish-red colour, and very easily detached from the neighbouring tissues; they were filled with dark-coloured, semi-coagulated blood. No ulceration, with the exception of a most minute one at the pylorus, could be detected throughout the whole tract. There was some degree of hardness about the muscular fibres of the pylorus, but it could be hardly said to amount to schirrus; the liver was much enlarged, and presented an engorged appearance; the right lung was, throughout its whole extent, infiltrated with pus, and so soft that it would easily break down under the finger; in fact, in the stage of pneumonia, which some pathologists have denominated "yellow hepatization."

Remarks.—The interesting points in this case are, 1st, the enormous hæmorrhage from the whole intestinal canal, for the whole tract, from the stomach to the rectum, was found gorged with blood, and presented an uniformly dark congested appearance. Such cases of great congestion, and fearful hæmorrhage consequent on it, are, happily, not common in this part of the world. In the tropics they are more frequently met with. The enlarged liver had probably some effect as a predisposing cause. 2ndly, the purulent infiltration of the lung, which evidently proves, either that pneumonia may progress through all its stages, *pari passu*, with enormous depletion; or we must acknowledge that a whole organ may become disorganized, and infiltrated with pus, without antecedent inflammation. How far it might have been a metastatic deposition, in consequence of the healing of the sinus in the axilla, I am unable to say, but must, with many of my professional brethren, long for the knowledge which we do not possess, and exclaim with the Latin poet,—

"Felix, qui potuit rerum cognoscere causas."

April 28th, 1845.

REVIEWS.

Report of the Third General Meeting of the Sydenham Society, held at the Society's Rooms on Thursday, May 1st, 1845.

THIS report, which we presume to be that of the Sydenham Society,* is entitled to a very prominent place among the "curiosities of medical literature," and we shall therefore expend a little more time upon it than is usually devoted to "Reports."

It commences with a record of the issues of the year, with remarks laudatory of the authors and editors.

The Latin Sydenham, it appears, maintains "the well-known high literary character of its editor," and, in a rather circumflex manner, "the council congratulate their fellow members, that, for the first time, and under their auspices, an edition of Sydenham's works has appeared, which it is believed will be considered, *ubique gentium*, worthy," &c. &c.

Paulus Ægineta, vol. i., is ushered in by the remark, that "if among the original objects of the Sydenham Society, those which relate to ancient medical literature are to be attained at all, . . . these objects are likely to be gained by (query, it will be by) the publication of such a work as" Paulus Ægineta. After quoting, not very grammatically, two sentences from the preface of the work,† the report goes on to administer a severe rebuke to those "who cannot appreciate such works as," &c. They are coolly, if not elegantly, assured, that "whilst they prove themselves incompetent judges of the proceedings of such a Society as this, they afford equal proof of the necessity for its existence."

We now come to works in progress. These are oddly brought on the stage in couples; for no purpose that we can discover, unless to display some singular grammatical (*faux*) *pas*. Sydenham opens the ball with a sort of *pas apologetique*; but as he appears again we shall reserve our notice of him.

We have first Harvey and Hewson, whose works "are in a forward state, and may be (query, are) expected soon to be (query, to be soon) presented to the council. Harvey's works, it is fully expected, (we suspect the "may be" would do better here,) will be issued during the year."

We are next informed, that "A translation of Simon's Chemistry of Man," and of "Schwann's Researches on the intimate Structure of Animals and Vegetables," are (sic) in the press.

Next come Sydenham and Hasse. "Of the two other (other two) works already announced as in preparation, the English edition of Sydenham, and the translation of Hasse's Pathological

* We cannot speak certainly on this point; for although the report is called a "Report of the General Meeting," it does not, as is usual in printed reports, contain the resolutions under which, probably, it was adopted, and the council were appointed. The title-page is obviously incorrect, and as the compiler seems to have no idea of the theory of "Reports," we shall take the liberty of enlightening him on the subject. His report, then, was a mere private document, (a specimen, it may be, of his own taste and grammar,) until it was adopted by the council. When it had passed that ordeal it became "the report of the council," and as such was presented to the annual meeting. If adopted by them, it became the report of the Society. The resolutions adopting it, and appointing officers, should have been printed; and the proper title would have been, "Second Report of the Sydenham Society, with an account of the proceedings at the third general meeting."

† One of these sentences is the following:—"If the wisdom of antiquity be entitled to high reverence in any case, it is surely so in medicine, founded as this art especially is in observation and experience." Now we cannot help thinking that this reasoning rather tells the other way. Observation and experience are by their nature accumulative; and as each succeeding age profits by the discoveries and errors of its predecessor, the "reverence" would seem, as far as practical wisdom goes, to be due rather to us than to our ancestors. We may admire their intellectual power; we may wonder at their masculine proportions; we may almost revere their logical acuteness; but when we come to consider them as observers, we feel less confident in our ascriptions of praise. This was indeed the very point in which they were most deficient.

We do not at all deny the historical value of such works as Paulus Ægineta, or the advantages or interest of the study of the history of our profession. We do not think such works can be read without valuable warnings against hasty generalization and imperfect observation, and, above all, against false analogies; but we do feel that it is doing a wrong to ourselves, and an injury to them, to rest their claims for attention on any supposed practical value: and we cannot at all allow that it is either needful or wise to censure so broadly (or so coarsely) all who do not feel interested in this special kind of reading.

"There is, perhaps, no quality attached to a correct professional character, more fascinating to the generality of mankind, than a bland, gentle, humane mode of examining and prescribing for the sick. It steals like the sweetest notes of music into the bosom of the unhappy sufferer, and imparts a presentiment that all will go well."