A vesical calculus is to be crushed at St. Bartholomew's on the 29th inst. by Dr. Bigelow's method. It will be the first time that litholapaxy has ever been tried at that hospital.

JOHN B. WHEELER.

LONDON, August 27, 1879.

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS.

LYMPHADENOSIS, WITH BROWN PIGMENTATION OF SKIN.

BY WILLIAM CHILD, M. D., BATH, N. H.

IN the *London Lancet* for June, 1879, is reported a case of lymphadenosis, with brown pigmentation of the skin. Having recently had a case similar in many respects, and believing that cases of lymphadenosis are rare among country physicians, I submit the following:—

In June, 1878, F. S., aged thirty-five, came to my office for treatment. He stated that he was a farmer; that he had been generally in good health, never had any severe illness, and was temperate; that about nine months ago there came a swelling in left side of the neck, and a small, hard swelling just above the left clavicle; that, soon after, similar swellings came upon the right side of the neck and under each arm; that he was weak, had bad digestion, constipation, and night sweats.

On examination, I found large clusters of glands in the cervical and supra-clavicular regions, and in each axilla, enlarged, hard, and movable; face pale; skin moist; tongue little coated; pulse 100; temperature normal; urine without albumen, but it had frequently a deposit.

During the next few months he seemed to improve, taking hypophosphites of soda and lime, and living near the sea-shore. Early in the next winter the glands again increased in size, and also glands in the groins became diseased, and probably those in the abdomen and chest. The abdomen was full, with certain points firm and hardened; he had now and then dyspnoea, with coarse râles in upper part of left chest; night sweats increased; appetite less; strength failing. About this time appeared (1) in the loins patches of a brown color resembling those found in Addison's disease; (2) the soft parts about the left hip and thigh became thickened and brawny, but not discolored. This condition continued until his death, about two years from the first appearance of the disease. No post mortem was made.

In the case reported in the *Lancet* an autopsy showed that the supra-renal capsules were perfectly normal, but that the semilunar ganglia and solar plexus were involved in a closely aggregated mass of enlarged lymphatic glands. Says the *Lancet*:—

"From these facts two inferences may be fairly drawn: (1) that in Addison's disease the peculiar discoloration of the skin is not due immediately to the disease of the supra-renal bodies *per se*; (2) that it is due to extension of disease from these bodies to the sympathetic nervous centres in their neighborhood.

"Other published observations go far to establish the latter proposition as a sure fact. And if it be a fact it is the more interesting, because it is not likely to be an isolated fact in the agency of the nervous system. It points to this system as the agency through which are produced the dark areolæ of pregnant women and the brownish discoloration of other parts of the skin seen frequently in pregnancy, and occasionally in other cases without obvious cause."