rational, although listless and heavy. Copious draughts of milk, combined with white of eggs, were given. These induced frequent vomiting, and the patient soon became relieved. A gentle emetic of ipecacuanha, to remove the consequent torpor of the stomach, acted kindly, and a gentle perspiration, followed by quiet sleep, left him convalescent.

In this case the albumen doubtless acted as an antidote to the salts of both mercury and copper.—London Medical Gazette, April, 1841. T. R. B.

56. Poisoning with Blood Root. (Sanguinaria Canadensis.)—In July last, while four individuals (three females and one male) were engaged in cleaning and whitewashing the apothecary department of the Bellevue Hospital, they drank out of a demijohn left there, a large quantity of the tincture of blood root, mistaking it for some intoxicating liquor. They were all soon seized with racking and burning pains, and a tormenting thirst, but concealed from the physician what they had taken until it was too late to relieve them. They all died during the ensuing day.—New York Journal of Commerce. T. R. B.

57. On testing for Arsenic and Antimony by Hume's Process. Mr. Marsh states that in repeated experiments, he found Hume's test (the ammoniacal-nitrate of silver) extremely useful as a discriminative test for arsenic or antimony. He uses it thus. After the matter to be tested has been acted upon by his apparatus, a piece of common window glass, (which he prefers,) porcelain or nica, is to have one of its surfaces moistened with Hume's test; it is then to be held horizontally, with its moistened side downwards, directly over the ignited jet of gas, about half an inch from the tip of the flame. If arsenic be present, the well known characteristic, lemon yellow colour, is instantly produced; if antimony be in the mixture, a curdy white precipitate is obtained; if, on the contrary, neither arsenic nor antimony is in the matter under examination, the hydrogen instantly reduces the silver of the test liquor to the metallic state. Mr. Marsh considers this as an admirable mode of discriminating.—London, Edinburgh, and Dublin Magazine, for June 1841. T. R. B.

58. Antidote to the Salts of Copper.—Liquid albumen is generally administered as an antidote in cases of poisoning with the salts of copper, but it has this disadvantage, that, as we are unacquainted with the exact quantity necessary to neutralize the copper, if we employ too great a quantity, the poison is dissolved in the excess of albumen. To remedy this inconvenience M. Bexouet proposes to substitute for albumen a solution of carbonate of soda, which forms with the salts of copper an insoluble carbonate, having no deleterious action on the economy.—Proc. Med. and Surg. Journ., August 14, 1841, from Journ. de Chimie.

59. Rupture of the Heart from external violence.—In our No. for April last an abstract was given of five cases of this, all we could then collect. The following interesting case, communicated to the Westminster Medical Society (23d Jan. 1841) by Dr. Hancock, may be added to the list. A man aged 50, was admitted into the Charing-cross Hospital on the 18th of January, between five and six o'clock in the evening, having sustained severe injury in his chest, in consequence of being compressed between a cart and a wall. On examination the sternum was found fractured, and several ribs on the right side dislocated from their cartilages; he could scarcely speak; his breathing was very difficult; his countenance anxious and livid, and his pulse 80, and regular. He was slightly relieved by the application of a broad roller round his ribs and sternum. Various stimulants were given, and hot water applied to his feet, but his pulse gradually and regularly got lower, and he died at five the following morning. The sternum was found fractured, six of the ribs were dislocated from their cartilages, and the cartilages also displaced from their attachments to the sternum on the right side, an opening being thus formed through which a portion of lung protruded; on the left side the cartilages of the three upper ribs were dislocated from the sternum, and the three lower cartilages were dislocated from the ribs them-