sequently formed in the connecting lymph, and communicate with the capillaries on either side of the wound, (though some uncertainty still exists as to *how* these channels spring up.) It is therefore desirable, when it is wished that the agglutinating lymph may act firmly, and effect speedy union, that no blood intervene between the lips of the wound; thus, it will be a matter of some importance not to bring the parts together until the bleeding has completely ceased. Some physiologists have, however, maintained that vessels may form in clots of blood, and this cannot be denied, as the fact has been proved by injections; but coagulable lymph is decidedly preferable as a connecting medium.

These observations are suggested to us by a case of carcinoma of the breast, lately under the care of Mr. Wakley, where the abnormal tumour was removed; the principal feature of the case being the very rapid cicatrization of the wound, and its healing very speedily by first intention, owing to certain precautions taken by Mr. Wakley, which will appear in the sequel. The patient is a woman, thirty years of age, who stated, that six months ago, her youngest child, whilst playing with her, struck her a smart blow on the right breast. For some days afterwards she experienced considerable pain in the part, and within a fortnight after she received the blow, she felt a small swelling on the side of the gland. This tumour rapidly increased, involved two-thirds of the mamma, and the patient sought advice at a dispensary; poultices and aperient medicines were here prescribed, but the tumour still went on increasing, and the nipple began to retract. Lancing pains soon came on, the patient became alarmed, and on the 1st of May applied to Mr. Wakley, who, after a careful examination of the breast, pronounced the growth to be of a true carcinomatous nature, and advised its speedy removal before any adhesions were formed between the gland and the parietes of the chest.

To this proposal the patient gladly consented. In a few days she was brought to the operating-room, and chloroform having been administered, the breast was amputated in the usual way. But little blood was lost, and after all oozing had ceased, the lips of the wound were carefully brought together and placed in close and exact approximation along the whole line of the incision. Mr. Wakley allowed some time to elapse before he applied the sutures, as he holds, that in operations where union by the first intention is particularly desirable, the divided parts should not be brought together until all bleeding has ceased, and adhesive matter has been partly thrown out. Mr. Wakley considers that the great impediments to primary union are, the formation of clots and the imperfect adjustment of the cut surfaces, and disapproves of the practice, in removal of the mammary gland, of allowing a large surface to heal by granulations, where there is a sufficient quantity of healthy skin to close the wound with healthy cutaneous substance.

The present case certainly appears to favour the views of Mr. Wakley, for the patient was discharged within a fortnight from the day of the operation, the wound being completely cicatrized. A very striking circumstance, connected with this case, is the trifling exciting cause, which was sufficient to call into action the malignant diathesis, as it were, of this poor woman; indeed, so slight was this exciting cause, that it may fairly be conjectured, that, in the absence of such provocation, the disease would nevertheless have manifested itself at some not very distant period. Early extirpation, as advised by Mr. Wakley, is evidently, in circumstances of this description, the only assistance which human skill can offer in cases of this nature.

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL.

Continued success of the Kousoo in promoting the expulsion of the Tape-worm.

(Under the care of Dr. Budd, and Dr. Todd.)

In former numbers of *THE LANCET*, (March 16, 1850, p. 339, and April 20, 1850, p. 483,) cases were noticed in which the Kousoo was found very efficacious for procuring the expulsion of the *tænia solium*. This plant is now acknowledged to be so useful in tape-worm, that it seems almost unnecessary to adduce new cases; we shall, however, just sketch a few of those which were lately benefited by the Kousoo, as they present various features of interest.

The first case, as taken from Mr. Jordan's notes, runs as follows:—Rebecca R., twenty-two years of age, is a native of Wapping; she went to Devonport when seven years of age, but only stayed there about a fortnight; with this exception she has constantly lived in town, generally at Wapping, but

about eighteen months ago she spent a year at Peckham. Patient's sister, who has been dead nine years, also suffered from tape-worm, which remained upon her to the time of her death. Patient likewise knows of a neighbour of hers in Wapping, close to her own home, who suffers from the *tænia*. This latter person and the above-mentioned sister are the only people she knows to be thus affected. The water is supplied by the New River Company to the whole neighbourhood.

Patient was quite healthy until about two years ago, since which time she has had great pain in the side and stomach; her appetite was good, but she used to feel sick on first getting up; she had, however, no idea that she harboured a tape-worm until a week before Christmas, when she first passed joints of it, and from that period, such joints have been passed almost every day.

Twice since she first noticed the joints she has passed long pieces of the worm, once after opening medicine, the other time without any such agency. She has never taken any turpentine nor any other remedy expressly for the worm.

Patient was admitted under the care of Dr. Budd, and took the Kousoo at half-past nine in the morning, the day after her admission; and, after taking a dose of castor oil in the middle of the day, the worm was passed with a motion at a quarter to five in the afternoon. This entozoon was nearly three yards in length, and the narrow segments approaching to the head were attached to it, though not the head itself. The medicine gave patient a slight feeling of sickness, which soon went off again. Her appetite was bad on the day she took the Kousoo, and she felt weak. With the exception of the tape-worm patient seems to have generally had good health, she has only a slight cough. Her mother and sister died of phthisis, but patient's appearance is remarkably florid and healthy.

The day after admission this woman left the hospital in good condition, without passing any more of the worm.

The second case was admitted under the care of Dr. Todd. The subject is a young woman, native of Scotland, *four months advanced in pregnancy*. She complained to Mr. Steele, the house-physician, that she was in the habit of passing long round worms, but when she brought the joint, which she had lately evacuated, they were found to be pieces of the *tænia solium*. When the nature of the worm was ascertained, the patient was admitted into the house, and took the Kousoo in the morning; at seven in the evening she went home, and a quarter of an hour after she had reached her residence, she passed five yards of the worm.

The third case was sent to Dr. Todd from the country. The patient is a middle-aged woman, residing at Bow, who took the Kousoo at three o'clock in the afternoon, and left the house immediately afterwards, promising to bring the worm as soon as she should evacuate it. The next morning she brought a tape-worm measuring about six yards in length.

The fourth case, who was admitted under the care of Dr. Budd, is that of a man, about forty-six years of age. His health has, in general, been pretty good; last winter, however, he was attacked by cholera, and treated in King's College Hospital. Whilst labouring under this disease, patient did not pass any joints of the tape-worm, though previous to his being visited by the epidemic he had now and then evacuated portions of the *tænia*. When convalescent, he took some oil of turpentine, and by the agency of this medicine he voided a few joints. From that period he continued passing joints, and was admitted under the care of Dr. Budd, May 3, 1850. Patient took the Kousoo in the morning, and had two doses of house medicine in the course of the day. At six o'clock in the evening, he passed a tape-worm of a very great length, since it measured nearly ten yards. The next day he voided a piece, six inches long, which came evidently from very near the head. It is to be regretted, as we stated before, that this medicine is so expensive; still, when it is considered how rapidly and effectually it promotes the evacuation of the *tænia*, the 17s. 6d. can hardly be looked upon as a high price; the more so, as, in hospital practice, the patients need stay in the house but a short time. It will be extremely interesting to keep an eye upon these patients, in order to ascertain whether the benefit is of a lasting or temporary kind.

MEDICAL JOURNALISM.—The *Quarterly Medical Journal* of Prague has ceased to exist. The editor, Dr. Halla, has fixed his residence in Vienna. The journals published by Rosas and Heller have likewise stopped; so that the only medical paper now published in Vienna is the journal of the Imperial Society of Physicians.