serious trouble to arise from vaccination? (State cases and kind of virus used.)

Dr. J. R. Bronson, of Massachusetts, was present as a delegate from the medical society of that State, and addressed the society in a very happy manner, presenting the greetings of the Massachusetts Medical Society and expressing the desire for a closer relationship between the societies.

Dr. R. F. Weir, of New York, and Dr. E. E. Holt, of Maine, presented the greetings of their respective societies with brief speeches, and urged the desirability of the Connecticut society sending representatives to the meetings of sister societies.

Dr. Russell as delegate to Pennsylvania, Dr. Hills to Rhode Island, and Dr. Chamberlain to Massachusetts reported an account of their respective visits. Among other things, the greater activity and interest of the Massachusetts society in public affairs were noted, and the social features so prominent in the Rhode Island society, as well as the large attendance and interest in the meetings, which are held quarterly.

Dr. G. P. Davis gave a very interesting demonstration of the methods used in antiseptic surgery, with exhibition of the apparatus and the details by applying the dressings, etc., under the spray from an atomizer devised by Dr. Weir, of New York. He gave a brief outline of the theories upon which the methods are based and the results obtained.

Dr. Bronson spoke of the results in the Massachusetts General Hospital, and Dr. Weir made extended remarks upon the general methods and obstacles. He stated that although thymol was less objectionable to handle than carbolic acid, it was not as effective, a larger percentage of failures occurring under its use in his hands.

Dr. S. H. Chapman presented a paper discussing the treatment of throat and ear disease, following the Vienna school mainly in his methods, and advocating the use of as strong solutions in the ear as in the throat, illustrating his theories with cases.

Dr. Barbour reported a series of four cases of thoracentesis in empyema, with recovery, rather an unusually favorable percentage. Two were aspirated, and in two free drainage was established.

The remainder of the session was occupied with the reading of voluntary papers, principally of unusual cases: Hemiplegia Alternans, Dr. W. C. Burke; Spinal Meningitis, Dr. C. M. Carleton; Extra-Uterine Pregnancy, Dr. E. F. Coates; Cardiac Thrombosis, Dr. I. W. Lyon, etc., etc. The session closed with a dinner at the New Haven House, which was a very pleasant affair.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GYNÆCOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF BOSTON.

HENRY M. FIELD, M. D., SECRETARY.

THE ninety-first regular meeting of the Gynæcological Society of Boston was held, according to announcement in the JOURNAL, at the Evans House, on the first Thursday in May, at three o'clock P. M. After the transaction of preliminary business, the doors were opened to such of the profession as had

responded to the general invitation to attend. Among others present were Drs. Garratt, Gilman, Kimball, Marcy, and Norris of Cambridgeport, Jones of Newton, and Wingate of Wellesley.

DR. CUTTER, active member of the society, proceeded to give a digest of Fifty Cases of Uterine Fibroids treated by Electrolysis, conjointly by himself and Dr. Kimball. It is impossible to give any sufficient report of this interesting and striking paper, which, from the mass of material and the limited time, could be presented only in the most concise and summary way, but by previous arrangement with the author and the society an adequate review will appear in the *American Journal of Medical Sciences* in July.

The uterine fibroid had proved intractable under other methods of medical and surgical treatment, but results by electrolysis had exceeded expectation. Two ladies, who had been cured by this method, had kindly consented to be present, and were introduced to the society, — their cases being given in detail.

Upon invitation of the chair DR. GARRATT followed with brief remarks. The question of interest is, Does the electric fluid pass through the tissues? He formerly believed that it did not; he now knows that it does. He had given a great deal of study to this question; an ordinary galvanometer will not solve the problem, but his own more perfected instrument had done so. The old idea that the human body resists the passage of the electric fluid is false; it is a better conductor than water; indeed, one of the best of conductors. He did not understand how the process was set up by which the tumor was removed, but that it accomplishes such removal there can be no doubt. Dr. Garratt farther observed that when Dr. Cutter first called on him some years ago with the project, which had been so well developed and so completely justified by the paper just presented, he was skeptical; very willing that the experiment should be made, but he had no faith in any practical results. He was glad to testify that Dr. Cutter was right, and that he had gone farther in this department than he had himself.

DR. WARNER asked whether the electric fluid would as readily pass through dead as living flesh.

DR. GARRATT replied: No; experiments on the cadaver were not conclusive.

THE OBLIGATION OF THE MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL SOCIETY TO FEMALE PHYSICIANS.

AN article on another page takes ground on this subject so opposed to our own views that we feel called upon not to let it pass without comment. The writer truly says that the society is intended as a body to regulate the standard of education in the State, "to fix a minimum of attainments" considered necessary for a respectable practitioner. In addition to this, the prime function of the society, there are also the scientific, ethical, and social features, which, under the wise management of past years, have made this body one of the most harmonious, prominent, and highly respected of its class in the country.

Does such a body as this sacrifice its reputation for liberality and progressive-