

prepared of any required strength, and used at a variable temperature, as might be found best; and hence a calculus might be much more readily dissolved by such a solution than by natural urine.

Should there be any form of calculus which might yet prove intractable, we might find in the many homologous ureas prepared by chemical processes some solvent even more efficacious. Such substances are—ethyl-urea, in which one atom of the hydrogen of ordinary urea is replaced by an atom of ethyl C_2H_5 , and which is obtained by acting on cyanic ether with ammonia; diamyl urea, in which two atoms of hydrogen are displaced by the alcohol radicle $C_{10}H_{21}$; &c. By the use of one or other of these agents, there is much hope that lithotomy and lithotripsy may be banished from the list of surgical operations.

I am, Sir, yours &c.,

Nottingham, Sept. 1862.

ISAAC ASHE, M.B.

INTRUSION OF A FOREIGN BODY INTO THE AIR-PASSAGES, AND ITS EXIT THROUGH THE PARIETES OF THE CHEST.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I beg to send the particulars of the following case, as they may be interesting to many of the readers of THE LANCET.

On the 7th of July I was sent for to see a boy aged nine years. His mother stated that he had hurt himself a few days before, and since then had spat up some matter, the smell of which was very offensive. On examining the right hypochondrium, marked dulness on percussion was perceptible over the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth ribs, and pressure caused considerable pain. The auscultatory phenomena gave evidence of inflammation of the lower lobe of the right lung, and there was slight swelling externally. He had well-marked pyrexia, thirst, and dyspnoea. The external swelling increased from the 7th of July till the 12th of August, when it was very carefully opened between the tenth and eleventh ribs. A good deal of unhealthy pus was evacuated, and the wound continued discharging. The abscess again enlarged, and burst on Sept. 4th, between the eleventh and twelfth ribs; and on the 7th, when changing the poultice, his mother observed a white speck, and, considering it a piece of bone, withdrew it, and found it to be a "piece of hay." The piece of which she spoke I send you, and the smell of it even yet speaks volumes. At the present time the boy thinks he must have swallowed it about twelve weeks ago, when playing in a hay-field. His strength had decreased very much, but he is now beginning to regain his lost ground, both the artificial and natural wound having quite healed.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Cradley Heath, Sept. 1862.

HUGH MORROW, L.R.C.S. Ed.

Medical News.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on the 11th inst.:—

Hodson, Thomas, Cocking, Essex.
Kernot, Abraham Bowerman, Great Wakering, Essex.
Leigh, Richard Hodges, Barbican, London.
Newman, Anthony John, Newport, Monmouth.
Threadgale, Robert Easey, Haveringham, Suffolk.
White, Arthur Calcutta, Rawreth, Essex.
Williams, William Rhys, Stotfold, Baldock.

The following gentlemen also on the same day passed their first examination:—

Atherton, Ebenezer, Guy's Hospital.
Scott, Robert John, St. Thomas's Hospital.
Worger, Thomas Hewlett, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

The following gentlemen passed their examination in the Science and Practice of Medicine, and received certificates to practise, on the 18th inst.:—

Foster, Francis Morris, Hull.
Meadows, Robert, King's College.
Morris, Ellis Jones, Holyhead.
Rayner, William, Uxbridge.
Renshaw, Charles J., Altrincham.
Rhodes, Charles, Addison-road, Kensington.
Temple, Thomas Burnet, Stockton-on-Tees.

The following gentlemen also on the same day passed their first examination:—

James, Joshua, Bristol.
Wigg, T. Carter, Charing-cross Hospital.
Yarrow, George Eugene, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

CHOLERA IN CHINA.—The latest accounts state that cholera is raging at Chefoo.

SALE OF ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.—The sale of the materials of this structure, which occupied five days, realized about £5000.

DANTE A PHYSICIAN.—Records recently found in the archives of Florence seem to show that Dante was inscribed at that University in the class of doctors and pharmacists.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL.—The number of members on the register of St. Bartholomew's College and Hospital amounts to 1513.

THE CHALMERS HOSPITAL, BANFF.—This hospital, containing fifty beds, has been erected by the trustees under the will of the late Mr. Alexander Chalmers, of Clunie.

THE MORTALITY OF ST. GILES'S PARISH is far above the average of the mortality in the metropolis generally. The death-rate from all causes, in 1861, was at the rate of 27.03 per thousand.

FLESH-EATING AND CHOLERA.—The Bombay mortuary returns show that in respect to cholera the flesh-eating portion of the native community suffer more severely than those who do not eat meat.

CONSUMPTION OF QUININE.—The quantity of quinine used in the Bombay Dispensary in 1825-26 was 8 lb. 11 oz.; in 1860-61 the consumption amounted to 1113 lb., the price having fallen from 90 Rs. to 3 Rs. per ounce.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.—The thirty-second annual meeting of this Association will be held at Cambridge, under the presidency of Professor Willis, on Wednesday next, the 1st of October.

ABSINTHE.—The use of this liqueur has increased to so great an extent in France, especially in the army, that the Council-General of the department of the Var has, for a second time, strongly represented to the Government the necessity of checking its consumption by means of a large increase of the excise duty.

THE HEAD OF TAYLOR THE MURDERER.—A phrenological development of the head of the murderer Taylor has been published by Mr. Bridges of Liverpool. He states that the formation of the head shows that the brain was malformed, and that his irrational conduct was in strict keeping with the type of his brain.

SANITARY INSPECTION IN THE CITY.—There are about 13,000 houses in the City of London, of which 6620 are under sanitary inspection, and are regularly visited every three or four months. There was a higher general state of health in the City during the last quarter than during any corresponding period for the last six years.

THE WANT OF SURGEONS IN INDIA.—The authorities both in India and at home are anxious to retain the services of the senior surgeons of the Indian medical service. Not a month passes without applications for more doctors for Indian stations and regiments. During the recent outbreak of cholera in the Punjab it was necessary to scour the country for every available assistant-surgeon.

MOLAR TOOTH LODGED IN THE TONGUE.—At the battle of Williamsburg a man received a bullet wound in the lower jaw, which was shattered. After attendance at the hospital, however, the wound healed rapidly. Some weeks afterwards he again presented himself, and on examination it was discovered that a molar tooth which had been knocked out of the jaw had been buried in the tongue.—*Journal of Dental Science.*

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.—During the year 1861, 284 persons were killed and 883 injured by accidents on railways in the United Kingdom. Of this number, 216 were killed and 836 injured in England and Wales; 39 were killed and the same number injured in Scotland; and 29 were killed and 8 injured in Ireland. 46 passengers were killed and 781 injured from causes beyond their own control.

VACCINATION.—The number of persons vaccinated last year in England was 432,806, of which 425,739 were successful, and of this number 100,641 were above a year old. The number of registered births in the unions making these returns was 635,646, more than double the number of infants vaccinated by the public vaccinator. The number of the vaccinators was 3731.