

examined was found to be extensively carious, the mastoid cells being full of dark pus globules, epithelial cells, &c.; the bone was extremely thin, and several apertures in it were noticed. The lateral sinus also presented traces of inflammation; but no pus or coagula were found therein. Dr. Merriman argued, that in this case the abscess was produced by transmission of inflammation from the bone through the membranes to the brain itself; and brought forward, in confirmation, the existence of headaches, and her being very forgetful and giddy at times during the last twelve or sixteen months, and also the frequent connexion of abscess of the brain with disease of the temporal or ethmoidal bone.

In the discussion which ensued, great difference of opinion existed among the members as to whether the disease of the ear, and the abscess in the substance of the brain, had any direct connexion, in the relation of cause and effect, to each other; and also as to the period of formation of the brain abscess.

Mr. HANCOCK related the following case:—He was sent for, on the 1st of January, 1846, to see Miss T—, of the Strand, aged eighteen, who, he was informed, was suffering from a disease of the ear. He found her sitting in the parlour, complaining of intense agony in the right ear and side of the head, so severe that she was obliged to support her head by both her hands, her elbows resting on the table. He was informed that she had been subject to discharge from that ear, at intervals, ever since she was two years of age; but that she had been free from that annoyance for some few weeks. As she complained very much of pain in her teeth on that side, he was induced to examine her mouth, and found one of her teeth so much decayed, that he advised its instant removal, which was subsequently effected, to her relief as to the pain in her mouth. He carefully endeavoured to ascertain whether there were any symptoms of disease of the brain, but could not discover any beyond the pain and sensation of weight in the head. She was perfectly sensible, could converse with her friends, and would answer any question he put to her with the greatest readiness. Neither her arms nor lower extremities were affected; both sides of her face were natural, and she had perfect control over her sphincter muscles up to the period of her death. He would not take up the time of the Society by detailing the treatment employed, further than by stating, that on the second day she complained so much of throbbing in the ear, that he was induced to introduce a probe to ascertain the state of parts, and passed it nearly two inches into the organ without meeting with any obstacle. However, shortly after he left, he was informed that she felt something yield, which sensation was followed by a copious discharge of matter from the ear, to the extent, as the friends informed me, of nearly two ounces, with decided relief. He saw her three times a day until her death, which took place at about one o'clock on the morning of the 4th; and he would observe, that although he carefully watched for any symptom of paralysis, he could not detect any, even at his last visit, about three hours before she died.

On the next day but one, he examined the body, assisted by Mr. Echlin and Mr. Nicolle; and on removing the brain, he found, corresponding to the petrous portion of the temporal bone, an ulcer of the dura mater, about the size of a sixpence, this ulcer being evidently produced by some sharp processes of bone growing out from the petrous portion, the condition of which appeared to be perfectly healthy. Upon cutting into the right hemisphere of the cerebrum, they discovered a very large abscess, implicating nearly the whole of the middle and extending into the anterior and posterior lobes of that hemisphere, the abscess being contained in a very tough and thickened cyst. There was no communication between the cerebral abscess and the internal ear, the petrous portion, as he had observed, remaining to all appearance healthy. They next examined the internal ear, but could discover no signs of abscess in that situation; the lining membrane was thickened, but there was no trace of any collection of matter having been found within that cavity.

#### SEA-SICKNESS.

A CORRESPONDENT has addressed the following remarks to us on this subject:—

I believe, that in sea-sickness a churning motion of the blood is kept up in the large bloodvessels going to the brain: and in the sinuses &c. of the brain: sometimes there is too much blood, sometimes too little there: confusion takes place, and sympathetic nausea and retching, &c., from irregular distribution or circulation of blood in the brain.

It is acknowledged by seafaring men, that lying across the midship is the best position and remedy for the distressing effects &c. of sea-sickness. We may reasonably agree to the fact, because the centre of the ship is the pivot on or from which the ship's head and stern rise and fall; the more you go fore or aft, the more the pitching is felt, and the worse the illness becomes. So long as you keep lying across the midship, and so long as the vessel does not roll, so long may you calculate on an improved condition. Perfect immunity from the evils of sea-sickness, in a swell, even in the most advantageous position, can never be expected, because, although you are in the centre, the point—out of a swell—where the motion is the least experienced, the whole vessel more or less partakes of the motion, and often, equally throughout, rises on a wave, and falls as it passes on. Neither brandy, soda-water, creosote, beef-steaks, or any other vaunted remedy, can keep off the evil. The most experienced seamen suffer on going to sea, after a stretch on the land, or rest on shore, in rough weather; so that all their knowledge on this point goes for nothing, is of no avail, either to themselves or others, under certain circumstances. Nor is it to be wondered at, especially when we reflect that human knowledge cannot for a moment be supposed capable of controlling the laws of God, or, to modify this expression, can scarcely be supposed capable of controlling the effects of natural causes.

I am, Sir, yours obediently, &c.,  
W. R.

#### A SHE-QUACK.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I take the liberty of enclosing to you one of Sir James Graham's she-quack bills, which was handed me by a gentleman of my acquaintance. It is really a curiosity, and is worth recording. Will you be so good as to find a corner for it in your valuable journal. I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

Adelphi-street, Glasgow, Jan. 1846.

M. H. GIBSON, Surgeon.

"By her Majesty's Authority.

MRS. GALLIER,

No. 32, HIGH-STREET, GLASGOW,


MRS. GALLIER, got the Receipt from her husband who was beloved, not only for the many surprising Cures performed by him, but also for his charity to the poor and distressed, who has an extraordinary gift; and by studying and travelling abroad, she has attained the art of curing the most inveterate disorders incident to the human body.

She gives her advice at first sight, by informing the Patients whether their disease be incurable or not, and will not take them in hand if incurable on any consideration, it being well known to all who are acquainted with her, that her sole aim is to do good to her fellow-creatures, particularly in the charitable work of curing the dry and wet Inflammation of the Eyes. She cures WOUNDS in every part of the body, and all Running Sores: she has a never-failing Cure for the Bloody flux, and Fits; she cures the Gravel, and also Deafness, (provided the drum of the ear is not broken,) as numbers who have been deaf for years have been cured by her; as also Jaundice, Scurvy, Fits, Coughs, and all kinds of bilious complaints arising from the stomach; Worms, Rickets in children, or Broken Bellies in young or old; Scald Heads, Wens, and Disorders in the Teeth or Gums, Spleen, Wind, &c., &c. She cures with great success the Venereal Disease, having practised in many desperate cases—taking none in hand but those she thinks she can do good to. Her Medicine is highly approved of for Inward Complaints by those who have used it; also her Salve for Green Wounds and Running Sores. She cures the Rheumatism by an internal application; the Itch, Piles, and Green Sickness.

Mrs. G. also carries a large assortment of HERBS with her, ready prepared for various diseases; therefore let none despair, though ever so afflicted; for perhaps the hour of help is at hand. The cures she has effected, and the approbation she has met with, are convincing proofs of her abilities. All her cures are performed through the medium of Herbs alone.

Mrs. G. considering that there are people in the country whose disorders render them unable to come to her for advice, will, for the relief of such, call for this BILL, that they may have an opportunity of making their case known to her.

As Bills are expensive, please return this with your answer, and Medicines for all disorders may be had when called for.

 Bleeding if required."