

The immense surface of exposed cutis, the discharge, the exquisite sensibility, all reminded me of the appearance and effects of a scald ; and, reasoning by analogy, I tried the same mode of treatment, with the good consequences above stated.

London Med. Gaz.

III.

NEW MODE OF OPERATING FOR NÆVUS. BY DR. M. HALL.

THIS operation consists in the introduction of a couching-needle with cutting edges, at one point of the circumference of the nævus, close by the adjoining healthy skin. From this point the instrument is made to pass through the tumor in eight or ten different directions, so as to produce slight incisions through its textures, parallel with the skin, but not so as to pierce the tumor in any other part. The first point of puncture is to be made the *centre* of several rays of slight incisions effected by merely withdrawing, and again pushing forward the instrument, in the manner and in the various directions already mentioned. This plan was practised, under Dr. Hall's observation, by Mr. Heming, of Kentish-town, on a nævus somewhat larger than a shilling. A little pressure was applied over the tumor—there was no pain—no hemorrhage. For several weeks, nothing appeared to have been effected by the operation, and it was concluded that the operation had failed. "What a short time did not effect, however, a longer period accomplished completely. Half a year after the operation, the tumor was found to have disappeared, and the color of the skin to be nearly natural."

As the operation was performed

in only one instance, and as a long time intervened between it and any sensible effect, we have some misgivings as to the "*post hoc, ergo propter hoc*," on this occasion. We once got into some discredit by strenuously recommending an operation for a nævus situated on the head of a child ; but which operation was resisted by the tender-hearted mother. About a year afterwards the mother brought the child to us, when, to our surprise, the nævus had entirely disappeared, *without any operation*. We do not mention this fact to throw any discredit on Dr. Hall's proposal ; but only to show that *one instance* is but slender ground for drawing a conclusion, either in medicine or surgery.—*Medico-Chirurg. Rev.*

IV.

CASE IN WHICH BRASS WIRE WAS EXTRACTED FROM UNDER THE SKIN OF A FEMALE, IN WHOM IT HAD INDUCED TETANIC SYMPTOMS.

To the Editor of the Boston Med. and Surg. Journal.

DEAR SIR,—As the following case, from the singularity of the circumstances that attended it, may be deemed worthy an insertion in your Journal, I take the liberty of sending it you for that purpose. Yours, &c.

JOHN B. BROWN.

Mrs. A., a young married woman, about 25 years old, of feeble constitution, and lax, moveable fibre, sent for me in the night of the 31st of January, 1831.

I found her sitting in bed, very much bent forward, and unable to alter her position, so much even as to look up. The account she gave me, was, that she had been subject