

did not return. He was discharged twenty-four days after the operation. Two months after discharge he had an attack of vertigo while at work, but did not lose consciousness. He had no other attack. He was last seen two and one-half years after the operation, when he appeared strong and healthy, and considered himself entirely cured.

WILLIAM NOYES.

### **Treatment of Trigeminal Neuralgia by Pulverization of Methyl** (*Gazette des Hôpitaux*, p. 870, 1886).

"In trigeminal neuralgia, the first indication is the immediate alleviation of pain." "No agent seems more appropriate for this purpose than the chloride of methyl in refrigerant pulverization." The above propositions are advanced and discussed by Dr. Peyronnet de Lafonvielle. The time which has passed since the therapeutic application of this remedy by Debove in cases of sciatica is not long, but the number of cases so treated is now quite large. In August, 1885, Abadie published cases of cure of trigeminal neuralgia by this means. The observations of de Lafonvielle were made at Abadie's clinic, and it appears that even in the most severe cases these pulverizations produced almost immediate relief from pain. Frequently this occurred after the first application, but invariably after several. De L. has seen both acute and chronic cases cured by this means. Even when the pain was dependent upon some general or central cause, the relief was prompt and of long duration. The methods of applying this remedy seem to present certain difficulties. The low temperature which the chloride of methyl assumes when in gaseous form, and the strong pressure necessary in order to keep it in a liquid state at ordinary temperature, seem to constitute the chief obstacles. In the earliest applications, glass siphons, analogous to the ordinary seltzer-water siphons, were employed. But several explosions resulting, these glass siphons were replaced by receptacles of metal specially arranged for the purpose intended. The necessity of a special apparatus, the high cost of chloride of methyl, as well as the great care necessary in its application, are all factors which will render the introduction of this method into general practice almost impossible. Nevertheless, in view of the unsuccess of most other methods of treatment, these obstacles should not be considered too great.

G. W. J.

### **Dosage in Electro-Therapeutics.** R. VIGOUROUX (*Progress Medical*, p. 29, 1887).

The author, after reviewing the former inadequate means of measuring the strength of the galvanic current by giving the number of cells used, goes on to explain the present method (absolute measurement), and claims that this also is insufficient, particularly in regard to the physiological effects of the current. His line of argument is as follows:

The resistance of the human body varies very much. In one