

when death closed the scene. During the six or eight hours previous to her death she was quite delirious.

Post-mortem examination, thirty-six hours after death.—The features were placid; the throat appeared swollen; there was also green discoloration in each iliac region, but predominant in the right. The lungs were slightly congested; the heart healthy, and contained about six drachms of fluid blood; the left ventricle was so contracted as almost to close its cavity; liver pale; spleen healthy; gall-bladder half-full of very thick green bile; kidney healthy but congested; the stomach was removed for further examination; the duodenum, jejunum, and ilium were smeared with a thick grumous fluid and quantities of mucus; there were no traces of inflammation; the bladder was half-full of urine; the hymen was quite perfect; uterus healthy, but right ovary contained four cysts, the largest able to contain a large horse-bean, the smallest a pea. They were filled with a glairy, straw-coloured fluid; the ovary was twice its natural size, and had several coagula of blood in its substance; besides being generally congested, the Fallopian tubes and morsus diaboli were also much congested. The stomach contained about sixteen ounces of thick grumous fluid; there was a large patch of greenish discoloration on the posterior part of the great curve of the stomach, near the oesophageal opening, penetrating to the peritoneal covering, at which part the structure was softened, and blood effused under the mucous coat, as likewise in some eight or ten places near the great curve, but very slight traces of the poison were obtained by the usual and appropriate tests.

At the inquest, the nurse said she told the parents of the girl to get a dose of tartar emetic, but she obtained a pennyworth, and the quantity served was stated to have been ninety grains. The residue of the powder when weighed was twenty-five grains, so that sixty grains, or at least forty, were swallowed. The smallest dose on record producing death is fifteen grains;* most of the poison had passed off in vomiting and by stool. Verdict, "Accidental Death," with caution to the nurse and parents, &c.

I consider it as an interesting fact, that so much incipient disease of the ovary should exist in one so young, and I think it serves also to prove that, immediately on the female attaining puberty, and calling her ovaries into their functions, so soon are they prone to alteration in structure and increase of bulk, and must necessarily play a most important part in the female economy.

Harrow-road, Jan. 1854.

SOME IMPORTANT FACTS REGARDING CHOLERA.

By JOHN FURLONGE, M.D., Antigua.

THE following facts are so interesting that I hasten to forward them for insertion in your widely-circulated journal. The ship *Glennenna*, from Liverpool, bound to New Orleans, with 500 emigrants, put into the Port of Charleston, Nevis, for medicines and provisions. She had lost between twenty and thirty emigrants from cholera since she left England, and had then between twenty and thirty lying ill with the disease. The authorities at Nevis prohibited communication with the shore, and the President sent his secretary alongside, who boarded her, to warn the captain to that effect. The ship was supplied, however, with what she wanted. She lay at anchor very near to the shore, and remained sixteen hours, and was reported by the persons who went to her as very dirty, and disgustingly and intolerably offensive. The ship arrived on the 22nd of November, and on the 4th of December (twelve days after), malignant, and cholera of a terribly fatal nature broke out at Charleston. Amongst the first who suffered was the secretary, who went on board; he recovered. The first five cases, a father and four children, all died, and in fourteen days it swept off upwards of 100, ten being the average daily mortality. On Sunday last, the 18th instant, thirty are reported to have died, and on the next day twenty-eight. We here, at Antigua, are very much alarmed, as Nevis is about fifty miles west, and the wind for sometime had prevailed from that quarter. The profession here are almost to a man non-contagionists, but this "blow" has, in some degree, shaken our doctrine, and the Board of Health has ordered strict quarantine between the islands. This outbreak at Nevis—one of the healthiest West India islands, isolated, and which escaped yellow fever, so lately prevalent in the neighbouring colonies—would almost seem to settle the question of contagion, and to afford a kind

of *experimentum crucis* on the subject. We are doing in Antigua all we can to avert the pest from our shores, so far as sanitary measures can be effectual. I may mention that it is reported that several of the ship's men got on shore at Nevis, and became very drunk; but this requires authentication.* The disease is reported to have attacked chiefly the poorer classes, and the persons about butchers' shambles are said to have suffered much, and all filthy localities. The town is represented as in a very bad condition as regards sanitary requirements, and the sea-shore (the town is close to it) is made the receptacle for all the filth, domestic and otherwise, and is intolerably disgusting.

St. John's, Antigua, December, 1853.

REPORT OF A CASE OF RUBEOLA IN AN ADULT, USHERED IN BY SEVERE COLLAPSE.

By H. C. HASTINGS, M.R.C.S.

I WAS summoned at four A.M. to visit a Mr. C——, an assistant in a large grocery establishment, who had retired to rest in his usual health, with the exception of slight colicky pains in the body, for which he had taken two compound rhubarb pills. At about three A.M. the noise and groans he made, (as if from pain,) and his incoherent talking, awoke a companion sleeping in the same apartment, and who, on striking a light, discovered that Mr. C—— appeared to be in a "fit;" that he was insensible or nearly so, and his face, lips, and fingers were much darker than natural.

I was soon after this at the bedside, and found, in addition to this partial loss of consciousness and livid hue of the surface, that the heart's action had become extremely feeble, the pulsation at the wrist being scarcely perceptible; that there was a clammy sweat to be both seen and felt; the extremities were getting cold, and the respiration laboured. The symptoms seemed to depend on congestion of the brain from a "poison" of some kind, and the state of the pulse and the coldness of the extremities indicated the employment of stimulants and artificial warmth with a view to bring on reaction; and brandy was administered, a teaspoonful at a time, as soon as the patient could be made to swallow. The circulation rallied under this treatment, after a considerable interval, and consciousness being restored I left the house.

In the course of the day there were several copious evacuations from the bowels; much sickness; colicky and epigastric pain complained of, evidently depending on the morbid condition of the blood, and its temporary stagnation in the capillaries of the internal organs. The vomiting, diarrhoea, and pain continued all day, and in the evening, small, red, dingy papules began to show themselves on the forehead and face, convincing me at once that the severe stage of *collapse* I had just witnessed was merely a premonitory symptom of one of the exanthemata, small-pox or measles. The next day the characteristic eruption of measles showed itself in a more marked form all over the body, and subsequently the extremities, rendering the diagnosis, which was before obscure, perfectly easy, and with the exception of the pulse, which averaged for several days 120, nothing else occurred worthy of remark.

East Derham, Norfolk, Dec. 1854.

Hospital Reports.

ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL.

Mr. GUTHRIE desired to draw attention to the following

CASE OF MALIGNANT DISEASE WHICH REQUIRED REMOVAL OF THE WHOLE EYE.

Wm. T——, aged fifty, a labourer, residing at Wantage, Berks, was admitted into the hospital on the 10th of October, 1853, suffering from a growth extending from the inner canthus of the left eye to the centre of the cornea. This was intensely red, and presented an irregularly ulcerated surface, with elevated and thickened edges, secreting an unhealthy discharge. The pain in the eye was not great, but he suffered much from circum-orbital pain, especially in the frontal region, of a throb-

* I have since heard that this is true, and that five dead bodies were thrown overboard in the roadstead, and it was at first believed that the illness arose from eating fish which had preyed on the bodies. The people will not touch fish.

* Vide Taylor, p. 192. This makes the third case on record.