

means of a camel-hair pencil. As soon as the compact layer above mentioned can be wiped away in small fragments from around the optic nerve, the preparation may then be proceeded with. The retina being now spread out so as to lie perfectly smooth, a few drops of the sublimate solution are allowed to spread themselves over its surface, which is at the same time gently brushed with the pencil: by a repetition of this process, the compact layer yields, and the small flakes are washed away by dropping water or alcohol on the surface. If the preparation be now macerated in spirit for a week, and again cleansed, it is fitted for microscopical examination.

If a fresh eye be treated in the above manner, it is rendered unfit for the desired object by the hardening of the dense layer already spoken of, and the increased firmness of connexion between it and the nervous fibrils.—*B. and F. Med. Review*, Oct., 1837, from *Pfaff's Practische und Kritische Mittheilungen*, &c. Heft xxxiv., 1836.

2. *Quadruple Mammæ in the human subject.*—One of the best examples of this on record, has recently been communicated to the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society. The individual in whom the above mentioned peculiarity presented itself was 35 years of age, and was prematurely delivered of a still-born child on the 21st of July, 1835. The mammæ having afterwards become excessively painful and distended, she was compelled most reluctantly to permit the author to make an examination of them, by which it was discovered that she had two mammæ and two nipples on each side. The inferior or pectoral mammæ were fully developed, and in the natural situation; and their nipples, areolæ, and glands, presented nothing unusual in their appearance. Near the anterior margin of the axilla, a little higher up on each side, was situated another mammæ, about one-sixth the size of the others. The nipples of these were small and flat, but when gently pressed a milky fluid flowed copiously and readily from several ducts which opened upon their extremities. When milk was drawn from the lower breasts, a small quantity usually escaped from the nipples of the upper; and when the draught came into the former, the latter invariably became hard and distended. From the flatness of the nipples of the upper breasts the patient had never been able to suckle with them.—*Lond. Med. Gaz.*, January, 1838.

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3. *Impregnation whilst the uterine orifice was completely filled by a polypus.*—Dr. HANCK records in *Caspar's Wochenschrift für die Gesamte Heilkunde*, a case in which this phenomenon occurred. The subject of it was the mother of six children, who, when seen by Dr. Hanck, had been labouring for six weeks under profuse uterine hemorrhage. On examination a polypus was found occupying the neck of the uterus, which was removed at the commencement of the year 1836, by ligature. A few weeks afterwards another polypus was discovered in the uterine orifice, which, by the month of May, was as large as an apple, and its pedicle the size of a thumb. The hemorrhage became so profuse that it was necessary to apply a ligature to this polypus, which detached it in five days. The sixth day a third polypus, the size of a nut, was found occupying the uterine orifice. This increased rapidly in size; but as the hemorrhage was not profuse, and the patient's health was bad, she was ordered to a watering-place, where she remained six weeks. On her return the polypus was found to be as large as an apple. As the hemorrhage was not then profuse, a ligature was not applied until two weeks subsequently. Some weeks previously the patient, judging from her feelings, believed herself to be pregnant; but as the hemorrhage was constant, and the polypus occupied the orifice of the uterus, her physician supposed her to be mistaken. Eight days, however, after the last ligature had been applied, she was seized with profuse hemorrhage, faintness, &c. and a male embryo, with its envelopes, of nearly ten weeks, was expelled.—*Gaz. Méd. de Paris*, June 10, 1837.

4. *On Porosity and Imbibition.* By MAGENDIE. (Extracted from his lectures on the physical phenomena of life.)—One of the greatest mistakes in medicine is