

tice. In a case of amaurosis, in a man fifty years of age, about the twelfth of a grain (less than five milligrammes) of pure strychnia was introduced by means of an ear-pick into the *punctum lachrymale*; but as during this manipulation a portion of the powder was lost, about three milligrammes only entered the punctum. Three or four minutes had not elapsed when the patient's face became livid, and he was seized with spastic yawnings and vertigo. Free admission of air and cold aspersions were had recourse to, and "lavements" (!) were administered. The symptoms continued to increase, as shown by loss of speech and pulse, convulsive respiration, and violent tetanic shocks. Death seemed inevitable, when the severity of the symptoms abated, and after a copious evacuation of urine and feces, all had passed off in less than half an hour. From this fact it is evident that death might be rapidly caused by depositing in the corner of the interior of the eye from 5 to 15 centigrammes of strychnia or salt of strychnia; and supposing the remaining adherent powder to have been cleaned away, the detection of the cause of death might become a matter of extreme difficulty.—*Med. Times and Gaz.*, July 20, from *Gazette Médicale de Paris*, No. 6.

48. *Influence of Lead Poisoning on the Fetus*.—M. C. PAUL, in continuation of former researches (see No. of this Journal for Oct. 1860, p. 567), relates two additional cases, showing the great liability of women to abortion who have to work amid a saturnine atmosphere, as in polishing type and the like. He has now examined 89 individuals with reference to this point, and of these 31 have become pregnant while exposed to the action of lead. These women furnished 141 pregnancies; of these 82 proved abortions, in 4 labour was premature, in 5 the children were born dead. Of the children born alive 20 died during the first year, 18 during the second, 7 during the third, and 1 still later. Fourteen of the children are still living, 10 only having passed their third year.—*Med. Times and Gaz.*, July 20, from *Gaz. Méd.*, No. 10.

49. *Overdose of Croton Oil—Recovery*.—Dr. J. BRYDGE relates (*Edinburgh Med. Journal*, Aug. 1861) the case of a girl, 19 years of age, who took by mistake a teaspoonful of a liniment composed of equal parts of croton and olive oil. When seen by Dr. B. about half an hour afterwards, complained of an intense burning sensation in the throat and all down the œsophagus, but had no pain in stomach. Her pulse was 84 and feeble, nearly the same as in the morning, and the temperature of the surface was unaltered. Dr. B. immediately caused her to drink a considerable quantity of warm water, and sent for a full emetic dose of sulphate of zinc. Before the zinc was procured, she had commenced to vomit; but to make sure, it also was administered. The vomiting was now continued and severe, and was further encouraged by additional large quantities of tepid water. The *ejecta* contained, in addition to the water swallowed, a considerable amount of bile, and also a little of the remains of a scanty meal she had taken three hours before; they tasted strongly at first of croton oil. After the vomiting had continued for a quarter of an hour, she began to complain of severe pain in the stomach, not aggravated, however, by pressure. She was ordered an enema, consisting of thirty drops of tincture of opium in a table-spoonful of starch, with directions to have it repeated in an hour.

Dr. B. saw her again at half-past eleven. The bowels had been very freely opened about ten, and again at eleven; but the vomiting had ceased. The pain had considerably abated in the stomach, but was now very severe at the lower part of the bowels; but at neither place was it increased by pressure.

In a day or two she was as well as before the accident.