

AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

A somewhat Remarkable Case of Strangulated Hernia. By WALTER F. ATLEE, M. D.

The following case of strangulated hernia appears to be worthy of being recorded, from the long persistence of the symptoms after relief had been afforded to the obstruction, by an operation, and also from the nature of the matters vomited.

Mrs. S—, aged 60, residing in Logan Street, in this city, after suffering from Saturday until the afternoon of the ensuing Wednesday from strangulation of a femoral hernia, of six years' standing, for which a bandage had never been worn, consented to undergo an operation for its relief. Stercoraceous vomiting had then existed for twenty-four hours, before her attending physician, Dr. Shapleigh, could obtain her consent to his calling in any further aid from a surgeon.

The contents of the sac—which was about 7 inches in circumference—consisting of both intestine and omentum, were reduced after enlarging the opening in Poupart's ligament, and dividing freely the neck of the sac

The stercoraceous vomiting, however, continued until the following Sunday, when early in the morning an enormous discharge of feces occurred from the bowels, and all symptoms of strangulation ceased. The day after the operation enemata containing assafoetida were administered, and soon afterwards the matters that were thrown off from the mouth contained that substance, or, at least, were most strongly impregnated by its odour.

The patient entirely recovered.

DOMESTIC SUMMARY.

On the Action of Certain Vegetable Diuretics. By WILLIAM A. HAMMOND, M. D., Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army.—The ensuing investigations consist mainly of repetitions of those performed some years since by Krahmer, and subsequently by Bird. They have reference to the appreciation of the influence of squill, juniper, digitalis, and colchicum, over the quantity of the urine, its specific gravity and the amount of its solid organic and inorganic constituents. They were all performed upon healthy adult males.

The quantity of urine was determined in cubic centimetres, and the weight of solids in grammes.

The method employed for the determination of the whole amount of solid matter was as follows:—

Ten cubic centimetres of the urine were evaporated to as complete dryness as possible *in vacuo* over sulphuric acid, and the residue accurately weighed. By simple proportion the amount of solids in the whole quantity of urine was easily ascertained.

Although it is impossible to get rid of all the water by this process, the quan-