

female aged 82 years, and Dr. N. J. MACKINTOSH reports an equally favourable result in the case of a female in her 89th year (*Lancet*, Oct. 10, 1863).

29. *Sutures in the Operation for Hare-lip*.—M. GIRALDÉS has for some time used, in treating cases of hare-lip, a simple suture of silver wire. The result, he says, has surpassed his expectation; and hence, whatever be the age of the child, or the amount of deformity, he uses the simple in place of the twisted suture. The advantages which he recognizes are the following: 1. The silver wire suture allows of a more regular and exact coaptation of the lips of the wound; 2. Its application is easy; 3. It does not constrict the tissues as the twisted suture does; 4. It may remain for ten, twelve, or fifteen days. In some cases, he has not removed the sutures until cicatrization has been completed. In performing the operation, he uses small fine needles. The whole thickness of the lip, from skin to mucous membrane, is traversed; and the needle is brought through the opposite side from the mucous membrane to the skin. The projecting ends of the wire are then twisted so as to bring the edges of the wound together.—*British Med. Journ.*, Sept. 19, 1863, from *Bull. Gén. de Thér.*, Aug. 15, 1863.

30. *Dressing of Wounds*.—M. MAISONNEUVE employs as a dressing to wounds, compresses soaked in glycerine either pure or holding in solution one-thousandth part by weight of phenic (carbolic acid). When a wound assumes an unhealthy aspect; or when the pus seems about to become altered in character; as well as in cancerous, atonic, or varicose ulcers, the dressing applied consists of glycerolate of phenole—i. e., glycerine holding phenic acid in solution as above described. M. Maisonneuve believes this glycerolate to be a better disinfectant than permanganate of potash.—*British Med. Journ.*, Sept. 19, 1863, from *Journ. de Méd. et de Chir. Prat.*, Aug. 1863.

31. *Radical Cure of Hydrocele*.—The treatment of hydrocele would scarcely appear to be open to much improvement, and yet M. MAISONNEUVE may be said to have rendered valuable service to country practitioners, in supplying them with the means of curing hydrocele without assistants and without any iodized or vinous injection. Surgical instrument-makers, by flattening the handle of the trocar, have made it a much more portable instrument; it can be placed in the common dressing case, and no peculiar apparatus is now required for the operation. A radical cure can be effected with the trocar, a common conductor probe, and a stick of nitrate of silver. The procedure is instituted as follows:—The cylinder of caustic and the probe are placed together in the flame of a candle, the nitrate of silver melts, and one drop adheres to the conductor, and solidifies on its point. The tumour is then punctured and its contents removed. The style, after being cleansed of the lamp-black on its surface, is inserted into the tunica vaginalis through the canula, and carried rapidly three or four times over its surface. The nitrate of silver dissolves in the cavity, and induces a sufficient amount of inflammation to secure satisfactory results. After this operation, M. Maisonneuve is of opinion that the patient should remain in bed for a week or ten days. In one month a complete cure is effected. We should add that the same procedure is applicable to all small serous cysts, in which the tincture of iodine is habitually injected.—*Dublin Med. Press*, Sept. 30, 1863, from *Jour. de Méd.*

32. *Pneumatocoele of the Skull following Fracture of the Petrous Bone; Recovery*.—Dr. CHEVANCE records (*Bull. Gén. de Thér.*, 30th Aug. 1863) a case of this rare affection, of which two cases, one by Jarjavay and another by Balassa, are related in the *Arch. Gén.* for 1830.

A miner, aged 44, of good constitution, fell, in 1850, from a height of five mètres (nearly five yards and a half) on his feet, and immediately felt a very intense fixed pain at the back of his head, on the left side, with dazzlings of the eyes, slight giddiness, and singing in the ears; he felt stupefied also for half an hour, but did not lose consciousness. He said afterwards that he several times heard a crackling sound at the back of his head, in the situation of the pain.