

ral. Ordered eight leeches to the region of the heart, and an effervescing draught, with a scruple of the nitrate of potass three times a day.

Aug. 1. The leeches had the effect of almost instantaneously relieving the pain and dyspnœa, and the force of the pulse has undergone considerable diminution. The "bruit" is audible to the same extent as previously.

2. The difficulty of respiration has returned, and sickness is complained of. The pulse numbers 105, full, but much softer. Rest disturbed at night.

4. Dyspnœa much assuaged; legs still slightly swelled; feels altogether relieved. The stethoscope detects the "bruit" to have assumed somewhat of a *musical* character, but it continues in other respects unaltered. Prescribed the effervescent draught, with the spirit of nitric ether.

7. The dyspnœa has decidedly augmented; a great sensation of coldness is complained of. The heart's impulse has now become tremendous; the pulse full, hard, and jerking. Approaching dissolution becoming apparent, he was visited by Mr. WHEELER the apothecary, but he gradually ceased to respire at about six o'clock p.m.

Autopsy.—Universal œdema; a partial separation of the cuticle, with a general decomposition of the whole body.

Head.—Immense œdema of the scalp. On raising the calvarium, a quantity of bloody serum was found extravasated beneath the whole extent of the arachnoid. The ventricles contained serum tinged with blood; the substance of the cerebrum was of its proper consistence, but that of the cerebellum was considerably softened.

Thorax.—About a pint of bloody serum was found to exist in either pleural sac; the structure of the lungs was scarcely perceptible. The right auricle of the heart was somewhat dilated; the auriculo-ventricular orifice admitted the passage of four fingers. The right ventricle was also dilated, but its parietes were of their natural thickness. The left auricle was of its usual size; the ventricular orifice admitted the introduction of three fingers; and although the cavity of the ventricle was greatly dilated, its walls were neither increased nor diminished in bulk. The aorta admitted the introduction of but *one* finger. On opening that vessel, and examining its valves, one of them was ascertained to be perforated by several apertures, which, from their appearance, were thought to have been formed prior to death. Another of the valves in which some calcareous granules had been deposited, had accidentally been ruptured by the finger. The heart, its valves, and the aorta, were completely saturated with blood. The thoracic and abdominal portions of the aorta were so contracted that it was impracticable to introduce more than the *little-finger*. The

spleen was large, and when sections of it were made they resembled grumous blood. The liver and kidneys were exceedingly flaccid.

WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL.

AMPUTATION OF THE SUPERIOR MAXILLARY BONE.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Thinking that an account of an amputation of the *superior maxillary bone*, performed by Mr. Guthrie at the *Westminster Hospital*, on Saturday last, the 24th instant, would be interesting to the readers of *THE LANCET*, I transmitted a report of it for insertion. On looking into *THE LANCET* this day I was annoyed to find interpolated two paragraphs containing statements which I do not vouch for, and sentiments in which I do not concur. From whatever cause this occurred, matters not to me; but having publicly declared my intention of reporting the case, I conceive it necessary, as the whole article will be naturally ascribed to one writer, to point out the parts for which I am responsible. I therefore acknowledge the correctness of the whole printed article *except the second paragraph, and the last paragraph but one*. Of the contents of the second paragraph, not being present at the time referred to, I know nothing; but from the statements in the last paragraph but one, I must express my dissent. I was in the second circle above the area, and though in a place not particularly favourable for seeing, I could not fail to hear any *outcries* that may have taken place; and I distinctly declare I did not hear any such ejaculations of speech or clattering of instruments as are described by your correspondent. From the complicated relations of the tumour and its excrescences, it must be obvious to any one who understands the subject, that a variety of instruments would be necessary to complete the excision, and I do not know any prompter means than speech by which the operator could communicate his wishes to the assistants. Perhaps your correspondent may be acquainted with some pantomimic demonstration, which on such occasions supersedes all oral communications, and thus renders all language criminal in his eyes; or, more likely, he may be a recent *échappé* from the "Deaf-and-Dumb Asylum," whose acute or rather *sub-acute* acoustic organ aggravates his perception, and magnifies every whisper into an "outcry." As Mr. Guthrie does not give me credit for any excessive desire of praising him, I think I may, without any suspicion of warping the truth, bear my testimony to the great *per-*

*spicuity** and steadiness with which the operation was performed. I am, Sir, your sincere well-wisher and obedient servant,

D. O. EDWARDS.

Walworth, Oct. 30, 1835.

*** In placing this note before our readers, we can assure Mr. EDWARDS that the parts of the report to the accuracy of which he has offered his objections, were furnished by a well-known correspondent, who insists that his statements are fully justified by the circumstances which occurred at the operation. We can only account for the existence of the very opposite impressions in the mind of Mr. EDWARDS and our other correspondent, by referring to the fact that those two gentlemen were situated in different parts of the theatre in which the operation was performed. Both writers, however, and we mention the circumstance with pleasure, agree in bearing testimony to the skill and dexterity of the operator.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

An Introductory Address, delivered at the commencement of the Tenth Session of the Manchester School of Med. and Surg.,

* Perspicuity of plan, steadiness of purpose.—D. O. E.

Pine-street. By James R. Bardsley, M.D., Lect. on Med. and Mat. Med. at the Institution. London: Burgess and Hill. 1835. pp. 47.

On Dropsies connected with Suppressed Perspiration, and Coagulable Urine. By Jonathan Osborne, M.D., Pres. of the K. and Q.'s Coll. of Phys. in Ireland. London: Sherwood. 1835. post 8vo. pp. 64.

CORRESPONDENTS.

We must apologize to very numerous readers for again omitting the communications we have received from them for publication; but promise them all insertion or a requisite notice in the next LANCET.—The paper on Phlegmasia Dolens will appear.

A Correspondent wishes to hear something respecting the award of the Medical-Reform-Essay Prizes.

Verax.—Are not the fabrications now too old—nearly five months—for contradiction? The letter of Mr. G. V. Rogers came too late for insertion this week.

The note of *A Gerrard-street Pupil*, next week.

ERRATA.—North London Hospital, page 151, col. 2nd, line 39, for *had an effect* read *had no effect*.

In leader last week, page 182, line 14, for *have* read *has*.—In leader, page 186, col. 2, line 13, for *who read whom*.—Page 192, col. 2, line 6, for *Mr. Schloss of Westminster* read *of Great Russell street, Bloomsbury*.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

(Extract from a Meteorological Journal kept at High Wycombe.)

Lat. 51° 37' 11" North, Long. 31° 45" West.)

Days.	Thermometer.		Barometer.		Rain. Ins. Dcls.	Wind.	Weather.
	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.			
Oct. 26	43.75	33.75	29.25	28.98	0.01875	E.	Day fine; rain in the night.
27	46.50	28.	.59	29.40	—	N.W.	Fine through the day.
28	45.50	38.25	.74	.68	0.39375	S.W.	Foggy during day; rain at night.
29	54.50	28.	.70	.59	0.0375	W.	Slight rain in morn; after, fine.
30	43.50	31.50	.92	.80	1.00	E.	Morning fine; after, heavy rain.
31	49.50	35.50	.74	.60	0.00625	N.W.	Frequent rain during the day.
Nov. 1	45.50	28.	.95	.77	—	N.W.	Particularly fine for the season.

Nov. 3, 1835.

W. JACKSON.