

was repeated every two hours throughout the night, and two or three spoonfuls of sago and wine between each dose. On the following morning the throat was much better, the fever had declined, and she expressed herself as feeling in every respect better. The remedies were continued, and in the evening all danger was at an end. After this she continued the quinine in doses of three or four grains during the day, and was up and well by the end of the week.

Another son and a servant of the same family were attacked the day after my arrival at the house, the disease being of epidemic prevalence in the town and for many miles around. They were both treated by an emetic in the first instance, followed up by a dose of calomel and jalap; and after the operation of this by a teaspoonful of bark-powder, with two tablespoonfuls of port wine, every two hours, with immediate convalescence; and this treatment becoming now general in the town, was very successfully pursued.

ERYSIPELAS.

An infant, fourteen months old, was attacked with erysipelas on the face, which extended down the neck to the chest, and down the arms to the finger-ends, the hands becoming oedematous. Calomel, antimony, and purgatives were freely administered for more than a week without permanent benefit; on the contrary, the disease was extending itself, and the child had become comatose. Under these circumstances half a grain of quinine was given every two hours, and a blister applied to the thigh. The amendment was almost immediate, and the child was two days after convalescent.

I have only to add, in conclusion, that the above are not a few choice cases selected from among many, in support of the opinion I have previously advanced, that quinine is a remedy which of late years has been too much neglected in the treatment of these varieties of fever; but, as I am out of practice, these are, although few, the only cases of the kind with the treatment of which I have had anything to do.

June 10, 1843.

IN SUB-ARACHNOID HÆMORRHAGE false membranes never occur, but in intra-arachnoid hæmorrhage they are always found around the effused clot on the fourth or fifth day. Paralysis of motion rarely accompanies sub-arachnoid hæmorrhage, but commonly intra-arachnoid hæmorrhage; paralysis of sensation is rare in both kinds. Deviation of the mouth does not occur in these cases, but sleep and coma are almost constant symptoms. Delirium and fever accompany intra-arachnoid hæmorrhage alone, but from this disease the patient may recover; while sub-arachnoid hæmorrhage has been found constantly fatal within eight days.

ANODYNE POWER OF THE CYNARA.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—On casually inquiring lately at one of the leading chemists and druggists in London, whether the *cynara* was often an ingredient in the prescriptions which were brought to his shop, I was much surprised to find that, with only one exception (which exception proved to be my own), he had never been called on to prepare it; and as I learned, still farther, from him, that he had experienced much difficulty in procuring it on the occasion just stated, the inference of its rarity in London practice was at once evinced. Having frequently prescribed the *cynara* with very decided success in rheumatic and neuralgic affections, and feeling satisfied, if the preparation be good, that it is very deserving of consideration, I venture, through your pages, to recommend it to your readers. I have prescribed it very frequently in private practice, as well as at the dispensary in this town, and have been convinced of its anodyne efficacy, even in some protracted and obstinate cases of sciatica, which had not been relieved by the ordinary remedies. I generally prescribe a combination of a drachm of its tincture with five grains of the extract, in a draught, three times a-day, varying the vehicle, and adding other remedies, according to the circumstances of the case; sometimes in *mist. guaiaci*, one ounce and a half, or *mist. camphoræ*; sometimes in combination with colchicum, and with or without a few drops of Battley's *liquor. opii sedativus*, or a solution of morphia. It possesses the advantage of having no deleterious or prejudicial effects on the system, and may be increased in its proportions, or duration, if the case require it. Several cases of gout have yielded so rapidly to its exhibition as to induce a belief in its specific power in the minds of those who have suffered from that complaint. It is not a new medicine; it is mentioned in Lewis's "Materia Medica," in Parr's, and in Hooper's "Medical Dictionary," and in other works, but is merely lauded there for its diuretic property, and said to derive its name "*cinara*," from *κινέω* (*moveo*), "*quia movet urinam*," an etymology as vague as it is unsatisfactory; others spell it "*cynara*," and derive it from *κύνω* (*canis*), from the dog-toothed shape of its leaf. But this is of minor importance. Suffice it to say that it is universally known under the title of "*artichoke*." It is necessary that it be prepared quite fresh from the leaves, its efficacy apparently depending mainly on its freshness. I do not feel justified in giving public reference to those who have been cured by it, although I could furnish abundant instances; and Mr. Baker, a highly respectable chemist in Chelmsford, who prepares it himself, and has the very best qua-

lity, can bear testimony to the frequent application from different quarters for its supply. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. C. BADELEY, M.D.

Chelmsford, July 4, 1843.

RARE PATHOLOGICAL CIRCUM- STANCE REMEDIED

BY AN

UNIQUE SURGICAL OPERATION.

A YOUNG lady, eighteen years of age, and of a sanguine temperament, was affected with a disease of the scalp that at first attracted no particular attention. It had first appeared (in an inflammatory shape) about her fifteenth year, but was at that period repressed by an especial attention to cleanliness. When about sixteen years of age, however, the patient began to find, that in combing her hair the comb was impeded by a fleshy ridge extending from one side of the head to the other, and which increased daily, till she was obliged to have a part of her hair cut off, being unable to comb it. She now consulted a surgeon, who states that all the scalp above a semi-circular line on either side, stretching from the occipital protuberance round to the parieto-frontal suture, was extensively hypertrophied. As felt above the ears, the scalp was thickened and soft, and pitted readily under the pressure of the finger; and the thickening and softening augmented towards the crown, where the skin seemed to be detached from the cranium, and had a convoluted aspect, its sulci being filled with a sebaceous secretion of a nauseous quality.

M. Robert, the surgeon who reports the case, proposed the operation of partial *scalping*, to which he proceeded on the 1st of October in last year. The head having been for the most part shaved, he began the incision about one inch and a half above the left mastoid process, directed his bistoury upwards and forwards across the parietal eminence to the sagittal suture, and then returned to the corresponding point on the opposite side of the head. The bistoury, without being removed, was now directed round the back of the head across the occipital bone, below its superior angle to the first point of departure, and all the tegumental structure comprised between these incisions was removed. The hæmorrhage was at first extremely abundant, but soon ceased on the application of cold lotions and the formation of a coagulum. The sides of the wound were approximated by a few sutures: charpie was the sole dressing employed. Twenty-four hours afterwards a violent febrile access took place, with headach, vomiting of bilious matters, fainting, &c., but vigorous bleeding was resorted to, and these symptoms gradually diminished; at the end of about a week the wound had entirely cicatrised. The mass removed was about eight inches in length, by three in

breadth; in its thickest part it was seven inches thick. Hairs were but thinly scattered over it, but in no wise differed from the hairs on other parts of the scalp. At present we learn that the scalp of the patient is thicker than normally; but it everywhere adheres to the bone, and is nowhere particularly salient. — *Journal de Chirurgie*, March.

EXTRACTION OF A LEATHERN CORD FROM THE BLADDER.

A NATIVE of Piedmont sometime since entered the Hôtel Dieu of Marseilles for stone, with which disease he had suffered for six months. Lithotripsy was determined on; but on grasping the body within the bladder by the forceps, it was found to be quite soft and compressible, and the surgeon determined if possible to draw it entire through the urethra. Much resistance was met with in trying to pass the neck of the bladder, and again, when the body was brought to the meatus urinarius, it became wedged there so closely that the instrument which held it could be neither retracted nor pushed forward. At length, by some violence, a strip of leather, eight inches in length, was drawn out incrustated with calculous deposit. Abundant hæmaturia followed; and the frightened patient acknowledged that about nine months before he had laid one of his boot-laces in the urethra, then gone to sleep, and on awaking could no longer find his boot-lace. Cystitis afterwards came on, and the man died in three days. After death the bladder was found enormously distended, stretching upwards beyond the umbilicus, its coats thickened, its internal surface of a darkened colour, and five small calculi in its cavity. The mucous membrane of the urethra was throughout converted into a softened blackish mass, easily scraped off with a scalpel; the prepuce and integument covering the penis were much thickened and infiltrated with fluid. — *Journ. de Conn. Med. Prat.*

TENDINOUS REUNION.—M. Berard lately exhibited to the French Acad. of Med. a preparation of the tendo-Achillis, which had been divided six months previously, but had become united again by an intermediate substance of a character different from the tendo-Achillis itself, to both cut extremities of which it was, however, closely adherent. M. Berard finds that by dividing this tendon in the case of fracture of the fibula with dislocation of the foot outwards, this accident, otherwise so difficult of remedy, becomes easily repaired.

ALGIERS and its neighbourhood seems to possess a climate that is protective against consumption. For some time only 1 in 650 cases of disease in the army there was a case of phthisis, and but 1 death in 102 cases has usually occurred from the same disease.