

Dr. Randolph premised the operation by remarking, that the disease had existed for a year, and that the parotid gland was probably the organ affected, though this point could only be satisfactorily ascertained after the removal of the diseased mass. He stated that the tumor was in a state of rapid increase, which would augment the difficulties of the operation. With regard to the question, as to whether the parotid gland had ever been removed successfully, he gave as his opinion that it was an operation which had been frequently performed, not only in Europe, but in this country, and proceeded to mention the names of a number of surgeons who had reported cases. He stated that for a long time he had thought that a scirrhus, or indurated parotid gland, could be more readily removed than when in a healthy state, and mentioned that Dr. N. R. Smith coincided with him in this opinion.

In performing the operation, as the left parotid was the one affected, the head was inclined to the right side, and an incision made from the zygoma down to the edge of the sterno-cleido mastoid muscle, a second one at right angles to this, and the flaps dissected up. The facial artery was then secured, and an attempt was made to raise the lower edge of the tumor and secure the external carotid where it enters the gland; this was found, however, to be attended with so much difficulty, in consequence of the close adhesions, that it was determined to dissect it from its attachments from above downwards; in doing this it became necessary to secure the temporal and internal maxillary arteries, besides several others of smaller size; the carotid was cut in dividing the last adhesions of the tumor, and instantly secured by means of Dr. Physick's needle and forceps. The external jugular vein was cut and secured at each end. The periosteum covering the angle of the jaw was absorbed, and the adhesion to the masseter muscle was so strong that part of it was removed with the tumor.

The operation lasted 59 minutes; but little blood was lost, and the patient bore it remarkably well.

After a careful examination of the parts, Dr. Randolph stated to the class that it was the unanimous opinion of the surgeons and anatomists present, that the *parotid gland was completely extirpated*. The ligatures have all, except one on a small vessel, come away; the cavity is filled with healthy granulations, and the patient's general symptoms are perfectly favorable.—Jan. 15, 1839.—*Am. Jour. of Med. Sciences.*

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OUTLINES OF THE INSTITUTES OF MEDICINE.

REFERENCE was made, last week, to the publication of this beautiful, and, we believe, very valuable and learned production, by Dr. Gallup, late President of the Medical Society of Vermont. The author has founded his remarks on the broad basis of the philosophy of the human economy,

in health and disease, and discussed each subject recognized in the field of observation, with that logical exactness and freedom which characterize the researches of an original thinker. It is a book that is not destined to be thrown upon the shelf after the title page has been read, to repose under the accumulating dust of the age. Its high claims to consideration must be admitted at the outset, and the principles developed and the philosophy which it inculcates will exercise the minds of professional men, we apprehend, more than any native system of theoretical or practical medicine which has appeared in this country. It is to be hoped there will be no sectional feelings operating against its intrinsic merits. Let it be read with candor, and justly weighed in the balance. It is possible that some may cavil at the style, or complain of the mechanism of expression, as being hard English. There is a singularity in the structure of the sentences, which are recognized as being peculiar—and yet, on a careful analysis, the elegance and not the deformity of language constitutes their deviation from common every-day writings. In the next place, the author recollected, at the commencement, that “order is Heaven’s first law.” He is as methodical in the arrangement of his various topics, as the veriest stickler for natural divisions and sub-divisions could desire, and every line carries with it the evidence of profound investigation. This is but the beginning of our notices of this very acceptable and meritorious performance.

Removal of the Jaw.—Dr. Gage, of New York, on reading the account of Dr. Baxley’s operation, at Baltimore, represented to have been without a parallel in the annals of American surgery, addressed the following communication to the Commercial Advertiser, which we have copied in detail, with a view to stating the final issue of the case to which Dr. Gage has called the public attention.

“*New York, January 25, 1839.*”

“I noticed in your valuable paper of this day, an article, copied from the Baltimore American, respecting the removal of one half the lower jaw on account of an osteo-sarcomatous tumor, and likewise a statement from Cooper’s Surgical Dictionary, that this operation had not been performed in Europe or America, except by the distinguished Dr. Mott, of New York, and Dr. Cusack, of Dublin. That credit may be given where it is due, I would beg to state, that the same operation, and for the same disease, was performed in the presence of the medical class in the Berkshire Medical Institution, I think in October of the year 1826, by J. P. Bachelord, Professor of Surgery in that institution, assisted by Drs. J. V. C. Smith and H. H. Childs. The operation was completely successful, and the patient was seen by me walking about the streets on the fourteenth day after it. He was a farmer, about forty-five years of age, and the tumor had been two years in forming. In this case the operation was commenced in a manner somewhat different from that in Dr. Baxley’s case. One of the lower incisor teeth was first removed, the external carotid artery of the right side was then laid bare and tied; then an incision was made on the mesial line of the lower jaw, commencing opposite the alveolar process, so as not to divide the lip, and continued down to the lower edge of the jaw. Another incision was then made, in a direction somewhat curved downward from the condyloid process of the jaw, in front of the ear, and continued to the first incision on the chin. The operation was completed by

dissecting out the right half of the jaw, as in Dr. Baxley's case. The tumor completely surrounded the jaw, and was about two and a half inches in length and nearly the same in diameter. The last time I saw the patient, which was on the fourteenth day after the operation, I think, the wound was perfectly healed, and the countenance was but slightly disfigured. He appeared to masticate very conveniently, and gave us students a specimen of his powers in that way upon a hard Boston cracker.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 THOMAS E. GAGE, M.D., 3 Park Place."

After the patient on whom Dr. Bacheldor operated, had been home some months, the disease was again manifested, and in a more formidable manner than before. In the operation, a portion only of the under jaw was removed, between the chin and angle; but an enlargement of the bone, towards the angle, was soon after discovered, which grew so exceedingly fast that it greatly alarmed the unfortunate patient. Being a man of firmness, he submitted to a second trial of skill. We were present, and have a distinct recollection of all the circumstances. In the presence of a large number of persons, on a beautifully pleasant morning, under the shade of a wide-spreading tree, in the town of Greenfield, Mass., Dr. B. made a new incision, and a fearful wound it was. The jaw was detached from its muscular attachments, unlocked at the joint, and the whole of one half taken away. This was fairly circumscribing the malady, and the poor sufferer speedily recovered. Notwithstanding the loss of half his jaw, there was not a very striking deformity, nor was the power of mastication essentially impaired.

Death of a Child from Laudanum.—From the coroner's report, February 7th, at New York, we learn that the death of Sarah Lecount, aged three months, was produced thus: The mother had been in the habit, nightly, of giving to the deceased infant and her twin sister, a teaspoonful of paregoric each, to prevent them from disturbing her in the night, "as they were very fretful." Having given a dose to one, and none being left for the other, the undutiful mother sent her son to an apothecary's for a fresh supply. When it came, she gave the usual dose, but the child appearing strangely, and having spasms, she examined the article and found she had given laudanum instead of paregoric. Away went the father to the clerk of the apothecary, who gave him five grains of the tartrate of antimony, which he was directed to dissolve in warm water and give the child a teaspoonful every minute. But the poor sufferer only grew worse. The father again went to the shop, and the clerk gave him a "quantity of tartrate of antimony and sulphate of zinc together," supposed to be in the proportion of about two grains of the tartrate to one of zinc, to be given like the former doses. Dr. Knight was then sent for. Next morning the child died. Now it is a question which of the articles killed the child—either one of them being sufficiently potent to have done it. The mother should have been held accountable to the law for such a violation of her maternal duties. And so should any woman, who, either in the character of a nurse, or the more tender and responsible relationship of mother, endangers the health of body and mind in a child by the administration of any preparation of opium. It is deeply to be deplored that there is not a heavy penalty imposed upon apothecaries who presume

to sell that powerful drug to persons in any condition of life, without a prescription from a regular medical practitioner.

Condition of the Insane Poor.—An effort is making in Pennsylvania, to devise suitable provision for that neglected class of human beings, the insane poor, in that great and enterprising State. Dr. Duglison was chairman of a committee which has sent forth an appeal to the people. The document is presumed to have been written by the chairman, which does honor to his heart. It carries in it a powerful and irresistibly convincing testimony, that something should be done immediately. Are arguments necessary to hasten a work of benevolence? If some general plan is not soon adopted for the comfortable accommodation of the insane poor of Pennsylvania, we shall at once conclude that the present generation has not kept pace with the progress of humanity in the more frigid regions of the north.

Worcester Insane Hospital.—From the Hon. H. Mann, one of the trustees, we acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the sixth annual report of that excellent institution, the Worcester Insane Hospital. Dr. Woodward's observations are entitled to a very careful perusal. There is a completeness and finish to all his medico-legal reports, which are scarcely ever found in documents emanating from such establishments in Europe.

Geneva Medical College.—The annual commencement was held on the 22d ult. Dr. Hale, president of the institution, gave an excellent address. A gold medal was awarded to A. L. Saunders for the best thesis on the *influence of the mind on the body*. Dr. C. B. Coventry, dean of the faculty, delivered a parting charge to the graduates, on professional duties. Dr. Elisha Doubleday, of Yates Co., N. Y.; Dr. J. C. Beales, of New York, and Dr. William C. Chase, of Upper Canada, received honorary degrees of medicine.

Smallpox.—Such is the neglect of the public authorities in the city of Buffalo, New York, with regard to vaccination, that it is said the smallpox extensively prevails there. Nearly every death, by that awful scourge, is through the neglect of those who have charge of the public health. Birds that will not sing, says the proverb, must be made to sing: and people that will not be vaccinated, voluntarily, must be compelled to submit to that simple, life-preserving process.

Progress of Phrenology.—No. 5 of the new Philadelphia Journal has been promptly delivered. It is really an excellent publication, with which we could not well dispense. It keeps constantly improving in the character of its materials—a property not always characteristic of all the periodicals abroad. Mr. Combe's paper on the size of Sir Walter Scott's brain, is from high authority. Mr. O. S. Fowler, a well-known operative phrenologist, has an article on *monomania*. There is no man living, we apprehend, who can more accurately display the whole intellectual condition of an individual's head—feelings, propensities, good, bad or indifferent—than that gentleman. Success to the American Phrenological Journal.