

Medical Items.

—The *Hospital Gazette* has stereotyped the heading *Death from Chloroform*, and the editors say that they have had no reason to regret the outlay. It is simply amazing to think of the apathy of the profession in the matter of the fatal effects of chloroform. How certain hospital surgeons can go on, day after day, and year after year, giving a dangerous anæsthetic when a much less dangerous one is at hand is one of these things that it is difficult to understand.

LAYS OF STUDENT LIFE—"THE NERVOUS STUDENT."

AIR—"The Village Blacksmith."

Before the dread examiner
 The nervous student stands ;
 A mighty dread is in his heart,
 A bone is in his hands ;
 Timidity o'er him doth hold
 Its sway with iron bands.

His form is gay with light attire,
 His boots the latest 'ann ;
 His *bravery* is all outside.
 No courage has this man :
 His brow is wet with fever'd sweat,
 He answers what he can.

His fellows, waiting in the hall,
 Are pacing to and fro—
 May be with rapid, anxious tread,
 Or thoughtful step, and slow—
 Whilst some from note-books would increase
 That little which they know.

From bone to muscle, nerve to vein,
 On, on the questions go ;
 And, in reply, from student lips
 Some sort of answers flow,
 Whilst stern examiner exclaims,
 Satirically, "Oh!"

At length the dreaded ordeal ends ;
 The student hears with pain
 These words, with deadly import rife,
 "Go, Sir, consult your Quain,
 And, when six months have pass'd away,
 Come back—and try again!"

The nervous student comes to grief,
 Whilst others, less endowed
 With talent, oftentimes will pass—
 A fact by all allowed,
 For whosoever's wanting *pluck*
 Is certain to get—*ploughed*.

HAROLD W. LANE.