

the rectum. They cause a sensation of fullness so that the patient may have a desire to defecate. This is overcome by opening the exhaust tube, and allowing the gases, which are in the rectum, to escape. This should be repeated as often as may be necessary. It will immediately relieve any possible distress. . . . The patient may have for a time a slight discomfort,* then becomes gradually drowsy, and the odor of ether appears upon the breath. He falls asleep, and in a comparatively short time has passed into full narcosis."

Dr. Leggatt gives a report of 13 cases he has anesthetized in this manner. In the majority of them, ether was begun simultaneously by the mouth, as well as by the rectum, and as soon as narcosis was reached, it was maintained by the rectal method alone. Dr. Leggatt says:

"Rectal anesthesia may thus be summed up from two standpoints, viz., from that of the patient, and from that of the operator.

"The lessening of nausea, the lessening of irritation to the lungs, and the lessening of the bronchial secretions, which are nearly entirely absent in most of the cases, are certainly all in themselves favorable. Furthermore, a fully and continuously clean field of action in all operations about the head and neck, saving time and loss of blood, and above all, lessening the chance of infection from an ether cone, are all points in favor of the method which must appeal to every operating surgeon."

Criminal Abortion, and the Punishment of those who Practice It.—In a series of articles in one of Toronto's daily papers (from the pen of its able Editor), the honor of the Ontario Medical Council, and, indirectly, that of the whole medical profession of the Province, has been called in question in a most unwarranted manner. Such a stain, it seems to us, calls for more than a passing protest from the members of the profession in question, both for the sake of those whose honor is assailed, as well as for the enlightenment of the public at large, whose interest in the matter is co-equal with that of the medical practitioner.