

been used in those instances which had come under his own observation.

Dr. Snow said, that in this respect the ether and chloroform were similar. It depended on the state of the stomach, whether full or otherwise, whether vomiting occurred. It took place on an average in about one to five cases.

Mr. Barnard Holt had seen the chloroform employed in several cases; in all of them it had produced violent convulsions. He had seen the same effects from ether.—*London Medical Gazette.*

Operations under the influence of Chloroform. By WILLIAM W. GULL.—The following incident, which occurred at Guy's Hospital yesterday, seems to me of sufficient importance to trouble you with its details:—

A boy, æt. 11, was under the care of Mr. Cook for disease of the right knee-joint, and it was determined to divide the tendons of the flexors. The boy was in good health, but his nervous system a little weakened from confinement to bed; his heart and lungs sound. A small quantity of chloroform, not exceeding 30 drops, was put upon a cone of bibulous paper, and placed over his mouth and nose. In less than a minute he was entirely insensible, the pupils becoming widely dilated, and the pulse small and frequent. As the operation was being proceeded with, his consciousness partly returned, and a few drops of the chloroform were put on a handkerchief and applied to the nose. He was instantly affected, and to such a degree that there was the greatest apprehension of his never rallying; the pulse was very feeble, 56; the breathing so indistinct as scarcely to be distinguished; the face pale, lips congested; the symptoms of collapse extreme. Amonia was employed, and, after about five minutes, he gave two or three deep inspirations; it was, however, more than fifteen minutes before he was so far himself as to be considered out of danger. Subsequently a small quantity of brandy was administered. He complained of headache. For a long time after he recovered his special senses and power of motion, general and perfect anæsthesia of the surface existed. This morning he is quite well.—*London Med. Gaz.*

Chloroform in Paris.—Some experiments with chloroform vapour have been recently made in Paris by M. Velpeau, at the hospital of La Charité. A woman from 25 to 30 years of age, suffering from a cancer of the breast, was made to inhale about a dozen drops of the chloroform on a handkerchief. At first she was merely affected with giddiness, but at the end of four or five minutes she fell off into a sleep. M. Velpeau then made some superficial incisions in the breast affected, and which is subsequently to be amputated. He next cut off a large wart from her hand with a bistoury, and the wound thus made, when bleeding abundantly, was deeply cauterized. The patient awoke in about two minutes without having felt anything, and without any of that agitation which characterizes the awakening from ether. The chloroform was next applied to a woman of about 50 years of age, who had to undergo the opening of an abscess in the breast, and with precisely the same effect. The following, however, is a more interesting one, although the results obtained have been partly negative:—A man of 30 years of age, who was attacked with tetanus two days before, in consequence of a wound in the finger, was made to inhale ether several times without effect. At last the chloroform was tried, and at the end of two or three minutes he became insensible, without any previous agitation. The inhalation was continued about a quarter of an hour, and the sleep lasted about double that period. The muscles, which were previously the seat of tetanic convulsions, soon fell into a state of complete relaxation; the mouth opened naturally; the muscles of the trunk became supple, and the breathing was easy.

When he awoke, his state was evidently much improved, but after a time the convulsions recommenced. Several new attempts to make him inhale were made, and each time in the same way, with this difference, that on each successive trial the contraction of the muscles yielded less completely to the stupefying influence. On Friday his state was decidedly worse; the tetanic convulsions had reached the lower extremities, and it was thought likely that death would promptly end his sufferings. It is evident from this case that the chloroform exercises a manifest action on the convulsed state of the muscles; and the persons who were present at the experiments, were struck with the fact that the patients who took it were perfectly calm.—*Dublin Med. Press.*

Injurious Effects of Chloroform.—At a recent meeting of the Surgical Society of Ireland, Mr. Stapleton stated that he had lately tried chloroform in some cases in Jervis Street Hospital. One man was put into a sound sleep, but awoke in about a minute afterwards, and expressed himself as having been conscious of everything that was done to him: while apparently unconscious, he said that he felt himself pinched, and so forth; but was unable to resist or give any indication of feeling. A resident pupil of the hospital had tried it a day or two ago, and was very merry during its action; to-day, he again tried it, and was put to sleep in two minutes, but recovered in two minutes more, and shortly after began laughing in a hysterical manner, and soon fell into violent convulsions, so as to require the united efforts of several people to hold him down in bed; he then got rigors, cold perspirations, and sickness of the stomach; his pulse sometimes fell very low, and, when the excitement was coming on, it would rise to 100. He remained in this uncertain state for two hours, and then expressed a wish to sleep. Under the operation of the chloroform there was a complete loss of muscular power, except during the convulsions.—*Dublin Medical Press.*

MIDWIFERY.

Leucorrhœa.—Leucorrhœa (or *fluor albus*, as it is sometimes called, from the appearance of the discharge of a thin white or milky secretion from the vagina of women not infected with a venereal virus) is of very frequent occurrence, and hence a correct understanding of it is important. For to attempt a cure in any case without a thorough acquaintance with the origin, causes and pathology of the complaint, is preposterous. In the treatment of disease, we must be guided chiefly by the actual condition of the whole system, as well as that of the diseased parts. This being granted, I can show that the mass of practitioners in this country are constantly treating leucorrhœa erroneously. They have one plan—they pursue that; and when it is adapted to the condition of the patient, benefit is derived; if it fails, the case is put down amongst the "incurables." One has this method, another has that; they all sometimes cure, but oftentimes they fail of their end, because not applied upon correct pathological principles.

Now there is no one mode of treatment for leucorrhœa; at all times the malady is to be managed in accordance with the general principles of medical science—and to be skillful in the application of these principles, it will be necessary to keep the pathology and causes of the disease constantly in view.

The disease consists of a peculiar inflammation of the mucous membrane of the vagina, or uterus, or both; and sometimes ulceration of these parts, which latter appears to me to be caused by the inflammation. It is characterized