

sed bone, and, with a steady, wriggling motion, at last succeeded in removing it from its situation. Another portion presented itself nearer to the temporal region, which was also detached with much less force, and a third portion, nearer the orbit, was then elevated to its normal position.—The dura mater was found to be lacerated, and portions of the cineritious substance of the brain were successively removed by the sponge, in clearing the wound of blood and coagula. The three pieces of bone removed, when arranged, after the operation, represented an irregular triangle, measuring one inch and three quarters in its maximum length, by one inch and an eighth, thus leaving a hole large enough to insert three fingers into the cranium.—The susceptibility to pain was so unusual in these severe injuries of the head, that it was deemed advisable to give him chloroform. In fact, without it, it would have been next to impossible to keep him quiet. After ascertaining that no spiculæ, or sharpened edges of bone were likely to irritate the brain, the edges of the wound were brought together with sutures, and dressed with cold water dressing. By this time the symptoms had continued increasing in severity; the pulse was barely perceptible; the extremities had become cold, lips blue, and insensibility continued complete long after the use of chloroform was discontinued. Under these circumstances the patient seemed to be rapidly sinking, and we plied him vigorously with brandy and water, heat to the extremities, &c., &c. At last reaction became fairly established, and at eight in the evening I found him with a pulse of 126, soft and regular, tongue clean, respiration natural, countenance good, pupils sensitive, heat restored, and without a single complaint; the stimulus had long since been discontinued, and he was ordered a purgative of calomel and jalap.

It is unnecessary to trespass on your pages with a daily detail of the symptoms

or treatment, suffice it to observe that, under the attentive exhibition of aperients, low diet, and local application of cold to the seat of injury, his recovery has been continued, and that, at the expiration of about a fortnight, the wound was entirely healed, and he seemed as well as ever in all respects save some slight dilatation of the pupils.

Bytown, Nov. 12th, 1851.

ART. XXXVII.—*Infinitesimal Doses : A Notice of Homœopathy and its Doctrines.* By D. MCCALLUM, M.D., M.R.C.S., Eng.

It is now admitted, we believe, by the profession generally, that medicines, to produce salutary effect on disease, need not be administered in such large doses as we find recommended in the works of the older physicians. We frankly confess, however, that we are not of the number of those of the present day, with whom it has become quite fashionable to talk slightly of the "heroic treatment" of our predecessors, and to condemn them in unmeasured terms for their advocacy of powerful depletory measures in certain cases. The commanding intellect of a Sydenham—a Cullen—a Hamilton—a Currie—a Rush, &c; their untiring and eminently successful efforts to advance the science of medicine—their laboured investigations to determine the proper treatment of disease—and above all, their great success as practitioners, should at least make us hesitate before we pass censure on the manner in which they administered medicines; did we not feel inclined to go further, and endeavor to ascertain if there are not causes in operation which subject the same disease to undergo such changes as, after the lapse of a number of years, to imperatively demand a modified or even contrary treatment at the hands of the medical profession.

\* The illustrious Sydenham, whose ex-