

ministry, and let us hope that some change for the better will shortly take place. On no occasion has medical aid been so much required and, perhaps, valued as during the present war, and no doubt, hereafter, the military surgeon will be thought more of, and placed in a better position than has been his customary lot. Within the last few days, news, a little more satisfactory, have been received of the condition of the troops, more especially in regard to the long-expected winter clothing, the sickness is a little on the decrease also, but the number already ill is positively frightful, and without the means of relief being at hand large numbers are necessarily sacrificed. I hope most fervently to be enabled to communicate tidings less gloomy in my next letter, but the feeling prevalent throughout the British Empire for the fate of its army has been one of universal despondency, which will require almost super-human efforts to dispel, and which, perhaps, the fall of Sebastopol alone, at whatever sacrifice, may be the holocaust to assuage wounded feelings.

*Triangular Calculi.*—In my last letter I brought under the notice of your readers the particulars of an operation of Lithotomy, where a *flat* calculus was removed. As a contrast, I subjoin the following case from the *Bulletin Académic Impériale*, of 15th July, in which a very unusual form was assumed, as well as an unusual number of calculi were present, thus deserving special attention. The case was reported to the Academy of Medicine, and was that of a man who had suffered from an acute articular Rheumatism, which was followed by inflammation of both the endocardium and pericardium, terminating ultimately in death. Besides the results of the inflammation of these membranes, the bladder was found to be thickened and contracted, and a secondary pouch at the base of its fundus contained five calculi, triangular in form, of equal dimensions, weight, colour, and composition, and disposed *en rosace*. The nucleus in all was uric acid, with layers of urate of lime, phosphate of lime with ammoniaco magnesian phosphate, and carbonate of lime.

Since my last I have witnessed a great many operations, but I can only describe two or three, reserving a future occasion for a useful summary of some of the more interesting.

*Malignant Tumour of the Face.*—A man, aged 67, who had a tumour twice removed before from the right side of the face, was admitted into University College Hospital, under Mr. Erichsen's care, with a third tumour the size of an orange, situated over the right cheek, and involving portions of the upper and lower lips, its angle being implicated. The tumour was decidedly of a malignant character, and its removal was consented to, to permit of the poor man having a little comfort of his existence for some time longer, but its recurrence was to be expected. The patient was brought into the operating theatre on the 1st Novem-