

cancer could be cured. He was allowed to treat a certain number of patients in the cancer ward of the Middlesex Hospital; and in the London Medical Circular for June 10th we perceive that he has recently issued a work on "Cancer and its treatment," and that the Surgeons of the Middlesex have reported the conclusion they have arrived at, after witnessing his peculiar mode. Dr. Fell believes that *Sanguinaria Canadensis* possesses certain wonderful properties, which, when the drug is administered internally, and applied externally to a cancerous tumour, will cause the enucleation of such tumour and cure the patient. Strange to say, however, the doctor finds it necessary to mix the *sanguinaria* with chloride of zinc whenever he applies it externally. The following is his formula: $\mathcal{R}$ *Sanguinaria Canadensis*, $\mathfrak{z}$ ss. vel. $\mathfrak{z}$ i; Chlor. Zinci, $\mathfrak{z}$ ss. vel. $\mathfrak{z}$ ij.; Aquæ, $\mathfrak{z}$ ij.; Pulv. Sem. Tritic. Hibern., q. s. Mix, and form a paste the consistence of treacle. Now is this not a miserable insult to the profession? To attempt for a moment to impress them with the belief that the caustic effects of this paste are due to the presence of bloodroot instead of chloride of zinc, is certainly most absurd. *Sanguinaria* has been employed topically as a stimulant in indolent and ill conditioned ulcers, but it does not possess the caustic power of chloride of zinc.

The Surgeons of the Middlesex Hospital report as follows:—

"The undersigned have great pleasure in now stating that Dr. Fell has fulfilled the obligation contracted by him frankly and without reserve; and whilst they regret that the limited period which has elapsed since the treatment in the hospital was commenced (January 22nd) prevents their coming to any positive conclusion upon certain points of great importance, they have yet no hesitation in stating their unanimous opinion—

"I. That Dr. Fell's mode of treatment is in entire accordance with known principles of surgery, is ingenious, safe, and easy of application by well-instructed surgeons.

"II. That it may be employed in all cases in which surgeons use the knife and in many others in which no prudent person would recommend a cutting operation.

"III. That Dr. Fell confines himself to the enucleation of the tumours merely; and, in the case of the breast, does not remove the entire gland, as is commonly considered necessary in the excision of the mammary cancers in this country.

"IV. That it is a great advantage attending this mode of treatment that the patients are not confined to bed or to the house; but that, on the contrary, they are able to obtain the benefit of exercise in the open air. In some instances their health has manifestly improved during the treatment.

"V. That the patient being exempt from the *immediate* hazards of a cutting operation such as exhaustion and hæmorrhage, and being able to pursue the treatment without confinement to bed, they appear little prone to such constitutional affections as erysipelas and pyæmia.