

poisonous effects of nicotine, and yet does not alter the aroma of tobacco. A solution of watercress may, therefore, be employed for steeping the leaves of tobacco, and would thus effectually divest them of their noxious properties; moreover, a draught of the same will act as a sure antidote to nicotine.—*Paris Cor. of Lanæet.*

#### Painless Cutting in Surgery.

Dr. W. B. Richardson read a paper before the British Medical Association, on a new method of painless cutting in surgery. The author placed before the section a knife consisting of a revolving blade, and which divided with so much rapidity that superficial incisions could be made with it without pain. The revolutions were about twenty-five per second, but the speed might be greatly increased. The knife in its action illustrated that an appreciable interval of time is necessary for fixing an impression on the mind, and for the development of consciousness. He hoped he should soon be able to give to the surgeon a small pocket instrument with which to open abscesses and perform many minor surgical operations painlessly, without having recourse to either general or local anæsthesia.

#### Cold Water Treatment of Typhoid Fever.

The object is to allay the excessive heat that is usual in all fevers. The thermometer is employed to determine the animal heat, either the axilla or the rectum being selected as the place for the observation. When the animal heat exceeds from 102° to 104° F., the use of the cold water is indicated. The cold bath, cold affusions, and the cold pack are used, the first being regarded as the most efficacious. The temperature of the water should be about 68°, and the patient be kept in the bath from five to ten minutes, according to the strength and degree of tolerance. The pack is suitable for very feeble patients. The mortality, by this treatment, has been very much reduced, the diarrhoea being less severe, the delirium not so persistent, and the comfort of the patient promoted. Other remedies, such as iodine, calomel, etc., were used in conjunction with the bath. The heat, in some cases, returns so rapidly after the use of the bath that its frequent repetition becomes necessary, as often sometimes as every two hours.—*Medical Archives.*

#### "Check Full of Lightning!"

A correspondent on the wing in one of our western States, gives the following as an illustration of the ignorance of some practitioners in the West. He says: I was invited home to dine one day by a regular M. D., a graduate of a Cincinnati college, who is doing a large business, and is worth per laps \$10,000. In the course of our conversation he mentioned the fact of his having lately been called to see a woman who had been struck by lightning, after stating his treatment in the case, he said the results had not been satisfactory, and that if called to see a similar case again, he would pursue a different course. I asked him what that would be. Said he, "I would wrap her in a wet sheet to draw the lightning out of her!" "Why," said he, "she's check full of lightning yit, you can see it run down her legs and arms every now and then, and she can feel it shootin' through her

body." "Now if I had wrapped her up in a wet sheet, the lightning would have been drawn out and she would have got well sooner." In answer to all my explanations of the laws of electricity his reply was that "he didn't keer for equilibrium or anything else, he knew she was check full of lightning anyhow." This case is true in every particular, and the man has a diploma from a regular medical school, and one of the first in this country.—*Medical and Surgical Reporter.*

#### Praiseworthy Action.

At a meeting of the Adams County Medical Society, Illinois, on the 9th of August, a resolution was passed and forwarded to the editors of the local papers, which is worthy of praise and imitation. It was as follows:

Whereas, The publication of accidents and Surgical operations in the daily prints, with the name of the medical attendant, may injure his standing in the profession, and subject him to censure by creating the presumption that he has, in violation of the code, reported the case for publication; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the editors in this city be specially requested to omit the name of the attending physician, or surgeon—if a member of this society—in every case of accident or disease they may see fit to publish.

We like this, and it is done in the right spirit.—*Ibid.*

#### Medical Cleanings.

St. Louis has started another Medical College—the College of Physicians and Surgeons—with a faculty of seventeen professors. Dr. Bauer, late of New York and Brooklyn, is the President of the Faculty, and Professor of Surgery.

#### A Ready Coating for Burns.

An exchange recommends the albumen of eggs as an efficacious application for the protection of burned parts from the air. Seven or eight successive applications are necessary.

—It was decided on Monday that the next meeting of the British Association for the advancement of Science shall be held in Liverpool, under the presidency of Professor Huxley. Invitations were also received from Edinburgh, Brighton, Bradford, and Belfast. The contest ultimately lay between Liverpool and Edinburgh; the former gaining the victory by a majority of 91 votes against 86.

#### Obituary Record.

Died, July 23th, at Prague, in the eighty second year of his age, Professor Purkinje, one of the most celebrated physiologists of modern times, and particularly known for his researches on vibratile cilia and the development of the ovum.

Died, at St. Petersburg, recently Dr. Heyfelder, consulting surgeon of the military hospitals of the city, and councillor of state to the Czar; also the author of numerous publications, the most celebrated of which is a treatise on resections and amputations.—*News and Library.*