

TRANSFUSION, or Blood taken from a Man and injected into the Veins of a Woman, who was dying of Hemorrhage.

This operation was performed about three weeks since, under the direction of DR. BLUNDELL, Lecturer on Physiology and Midwifery at Guy's Hospital.

A poor woman, about 25 years of age, was attended, whilst in labour, by Mr. Waller, of Aldersgate-street.— Nothing particular occurred during the labour, but after the birth of the child and expulsion of the placenta, the womb did not properly contract, and during the absence of the medical attendant flooding occurred to an alarming extent.— When visited by Mr. W., the patient's pulse, at the wrist, was scarcely perceptible, indeed, at times, it could not be felt; the lips and face were of a pallid, or death-like hue, and in a word, the taper of life was but faintly glimmering.

Under these circumstances, it occurred to Mr. Waller that the operation of transfusion would be a measure to rescue the patient from her perilous situation.

DR. BLUNDELL was sent for, and upon his arrival he found the patient had somewhat rallied; in consequence of which he deemed it better to delay the performance of the operation, for, as Dr. B. observed to his pupils, this operation is only justifiable in extreme and otherwise desperate cases.— After waiting an hour the patient became worse; she vomited and was exceedingly restless, which may always be regarded as a very bad symptom; the pulse at the wrist was fluttering, and occasionally not to be felt, and there was that peculiar expression of countenance which can scarcely be described; it may be called "death in the face." It did not appear proper to delay the operation, which was therefore commenced as follows:—

The cephalic vein of the right arm was laid bare, to the extent of about an inch, and a blunt-pointed bent needle was passed under the vein, at the lower part of the opening, so as to prevent the efflux of blood. The husband of the patient, a robust, healthy young man, was now called in, and two ounces of blood were taken, in a full stream, from his arm, and received into a conical glass tumbler. An opening of about $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch was made in the vein of the patient, and by means of a syringe and tube the blood abstracted from the husband was somewhat slowly thrown in, towards the heart. No very obvious effects were produced from this