

with a long needle, with the idea of preventing the clamp from slipping when sloughing began. Two rubber drainage tubes were then inserted, and the edges of the abdominal wounds were brought together, the stump and clamp remaining outside. Silk sutures were used, being inserted over a flat sponge, and tied after the sponge was removed. The wound was dressed with a Lister's bandage, some preparation of tar being applied immediately over the wound. The whole operation took just an hour, and the patient rallied well, and seemed much comforted at the promise of a glass of brandy. The child was a large girl, and was in excellent condition.

The whole operation was exceedingly well done, and four days later the patient was doing well, and seemed in a fair way to recover, though the bronchitis caused some anxiety. The advantages of this operation are, first, that the patient is never exposed again to the danger of a similar operation, should she survive; secondly, that the bleeding is absolutely controlled after the extraction of the contents of the uterus; and, thirdly, that the danger of peritonitis is much lessened by avoiding uterine sutures, and secondary hemorrhage from the uterine wound, which was so often the case when uterine sutures were not employed.

The results of the Vienna cases are certainly very favourable, and so far seem to recommend a wider adoption of the operation.—ED.

#### SPEEDY CURE OF NASAL POLYPI.

Dr. Caro in the *Medical Record*, gives the following painless method of removing nasal polypi, never before made public by the originator:

Mr. G. M.—, æt. 60, ten years ago applied to me for relief from a soft polypus in the left nostril. I proposed evulsion; but not liking the proposition, he left, and I never heard of him until last May, when he returned with another polypus in the same nostril. I advised evulsion once more; he declined it again, and desired me to cure him the same way as did Dr. G. Ceccarini the first time (ten years ago). On inquiry, Dr. C. kindly answered: "The medicine which I use for removing nasal polypi is four or five drops of pure acetic acid injected with a hypodermic syringe within the body of the polypus once only, very seldom twice; the polypus generally drops off within three or five days without discomfort or pain. Disinfecting lotion will correct the offensive odor." With this information, on the 12th of August, in presence of my friend Dr. J. L. Little, I injected the polypus with six drops of chemically pure acetic acid, and instantly we saw the discoloration of it from red to white. Business preventing him from returning, I could not observe the daily progress; but when he called on September 2nd, he had only a small

portion of it yet adhering to the middle turbinated bone, the other having dropped off the fourth day after the injection; this remaining portion was injected with four drops of the same acid, and on the third day dropped off, leaving his nose clear, without sore or a vestige of it. Neither of the two operations were followed by any unpleasant symptoms, save a slight smarting from the pricking by the needle when the acid was injected. The offensive odor arising from the decaying mass was corrected by a weak carbolized wash. The long interval from the destruction of the first, and the appearance of the second—ten years between—precludes the possibility of this last being a portion of the first, but a new one.

MEDICAL RECEPTIONS.—The old saw, that all work and no play helps to make the subject of that condition a dull boy, has a striking application to members of our profession. At best, our calling is an exacting and tiresome one, and its followers need something to offset a more or less continuous mental strain. We are glad to see that the old notion that the physician must be different from other men, is fast passing away. On the contrary, some of our best workers are those who seem to enjoy life the most. They are to be seen at the opera, the theatre, the concert hall, and at the fashionable receptions, with a regularity that would surprise the man who says he never has time to do anything but strictly professional business. The secret of the whole matter is, that some amusement gives in the end a better capacity for real work, when the latter is necessary. It is a promising sign that such amusements are beginning to be common among medical men. Medical receptions are becoming quite frequent, and their enjoyable character is likely to make them still more popular. Aside from showing honor to distinguished strangers, we know of no means better calculated to edify the man medical as a social being, and to give him a closer sympathy with his medical brother, than the receptions to which we allude. On such occasions the individuals meet on the common ground of enjoyable sociability, and lose sight of mere differences of opinion in a common desire to be happy themselves, and agreeable to their companions. Already the receptions which have been recently held are beginning to bear good fruit, transforming apparent strangers into congenial associates, and in creating a better understanding with all as to the true relation which professional gentlemen should bear to each other. We have a slight suspicion that the expression, "the more the merrier," will not be considered original with us, but it is nevertheless applicable to the occasion.—(*N. Y. Med. Record*),

CHANGING PHYSICIANS.—The *Medical Record*