

### Miscellaneous.

IN a very voluminous sarcomatous tumour of the breast, over the surface of which was spread a rich network of veins, terminating in two large trunks opposite the clavicle, M. Mollière ligatured the two trunks to avoid exhausting hæmorrhage. No ill consequences followed.—*Lyon Médical*.

At the meeting of the Surgical Society of Paris, on the 10th of January, M. Horteloup showed two salivary calculi which he had extracted from "Wharton's Duct," and which presented this peculiarity: that their large extremity was directed towards the buccal cavity.

AN OCTAVE OF TRIPLETS. — The *Lyon Médical* relates the case of a married woman living in Paris who has just given birth to a triplet, comprising her twenty-second, twenty-third, and twenty-fourth children. This woman, in the course of her married life of nine years, has given birth to twenty-four children, all born three at a time and in perfect health. Unfortunately for the husband, who is desirous to transmit his name to posterity, this remarkable family party consists entirely of girls.

DR. GURDON BUCK, of New York, died on the 6th of March, from Bright's disease, at the age of 70 years. He was a very notable surgeon, and was also the author of many improvements in surgical apparatuses. "His method of treating fractures of the thigh by the weight and pulley was at once recognised by surgeons throughout the civilized world as the establishment of an original principle of the utmost value" (*Med. Record*). His chief successes, however, were in auto-plastic surgery; and he published a work, within the last year of his life, entitled, "*Contributions to Reparative Surgery*."

NEW ANÆSTHETIC AGENT. Rabuteau, in a memoir read before the Académie des Sciences, states that he has investigated the physiological properties and mode of elimination of hydrobromic ether. He has satisfied himself that this anæsthetic agent, which possesses properties

intermediate to those of chloroform, bromoform, and ether, might be advantageously employed to produce surgical anæsthesia. The hydrobromic ether is neither a caustic nor an irritant. It can be ingested without difficulty; and applied without danger, not only to the skin, but to the external auditory meatus and to the mucous membrane. It is eliminated completely or almost completely, by the respiratory passages, in whatever way it may have been introduced into the system.

TREATING BLISTERS BY OSMOSIS.—M. Ungerer recently saw an extensive scald, which had for twelve hours been treated with cold water without relief from the agonizing pain, or reduction of the swelling. The experiment of immersing the limb in a saturated solution of salt was followed by most surprising relief. The abatement of the pain was immediate, and in four hours both the pain and swelling were gone. The next day the hand differed from the other only by a very slight swelling and redness.

CHLOROFORM IN HÆMOPTYSIS.—We extract from the *Lyon Médical* and the *Journal de Thérapeutique* the following paragraph giving a remarkable result obtained from the application of chloroform. A man, forty years of age, suffering from tuberculosis in an advanced stage, was seized with hæmoptysis which could not be arrested with ice, with turpentine, with ergot, and the application of heat and sinapisms to the extremities. Doctor Alex. Weir, seeing that his patient would soon succumb, had recourse to the local application of chloroform. Upon a piece of flannel of the dimensions of the affected part he poured two ounces of this liquid, applied it immediately to the chest, and covered it thickly with several layers of clothes to prevent its evaporation. The effect was instantaneous, the cough and the hæmorrhage ceased immediately and in a definitive manner. This man, who was addicted to drink, died later on, while on a drunken spree, with a tremendous hæmorrhage, which was instantly fatal. Dr. Weir is of the opinion that the chloroform here acted as a revulsive—we are of the same mode of thinking.—*Tribune Médicale*.