

rigger run four and half inches into a man's loins; a knife plunged into the abdomen, so that a wound of the stomach seemed a necessity; or area railings run through a thigh, all treated by narcotizing, all get well without a bad symptom."

Though we are in the habit of using opium in such cases, we usually combine it with minute doses of tartar emetic and calomel. The great importance we attach to a fixed condition not only of the joint itself but of the entire limb, renders narcotism unnecessary, yet we dare say some of our readers may be disposed to employ it.

In the treatment of ordinary synovitis there is nothing new in Mr. Barwell's directions. He gives cases to illustrate his views, some detailed at great length, and one, the second in his list, appears to have been an example of articular rheumatism, and not simple synovitis. The ankle and knee of one side were attacked at the beginning of the disease; two days after, the pain left the knee, and "she had some pain in both shoulders," Next day she had shivering, the pain left the knee entirely, the right knee resumed its normal temperature and colour, but the shoulders were painful, swollen, and hot. Three days after this there was friction sound over the region of the heart, and in addition, both hands had become affected in all their joints."

"It is useless, says Mr. Barwell, "to follow out the case day by day. Under the treatment of my friend Dr. Hyde Salter, the symptoms diminished. I myself saw her constantly, *being interested in the joint affection.*" "In about a month from the first attack every joint had recovered its normal size, and merely occasional uncertain pains were left."

The clause we have marked in italics illustrates the kind of "fussy practice" complained of Dr. Copeland some years ago, as the consequence of dividing the practice of medicine into specialities. A practitioner devoting his attention to, and putting himself forward as an authority upon diseases of the joints, finds his patient exhibiting an erratic form of synovitis, and forthwith places her under the care of a physician, though claiming for himself more than ordinary familiarity with articular diseases. We remember the late Dr. Greaves illustrating the absurdity of this division of labour by an anecdote of a patient of his who was advised to place himself under Dr. Farr of London. Dr. Farr treated the patient for a couple of months, and then assured him that his liver was all right, but he would now recommend him to go to Dr. Bright, to get his kidneys put in order.

Mr. Barwell believes that the disease called gonorrheal rheumatism is only a minor degree of pyarthrosis, and he thinks his view is supported by the analogy of the consequences which follow operations about the prostate, neck of the bladder, and uterus, in which the intricate net work of veins being wounded, purulent infection is established, and suppurative destruction of the joints frequently follows. "If then suppuration in this portion of the body be so apt to produce purulent infection, and more especially the articular form of the disease, can it be wondered at that suppuration of the male urethra is occasionally accompanied or followed by pains and swellings of joints, which have been, and often are still, mistaken for rheumatism." Is Mr. Barwell correct in saying such coinci-