

effect of the local application of opium to a nerve was to destroy its sensibility at the part, and that from this action of the drug the immediate cessation of the pain arose. He then pointed out the rapidity with which absorption appeared to take place from the cellular tissue, which seemed to account for the rapidity of the narcotic effect which a small dose of opium so introduced was found to produce. He also pointed out, that other medicines might be introduced in the same way.

Dr. W. T. Gairdner mentioned, that a patient in his wards in the hospital, had been injected the other day in the way recommended by Dr. Wood. The result was not decisive, as the complaint for which the man was under treatment, viz: lumbago, had been undergoing rapid amendment, and, indeed, the day after the operation, was nearly gone. The experiment, however, was attended with little suffering, and it was noted that some degree of giddiness was almost immediately produced.—*Monthly Jour. Med. Science.—Stethoscope.*

*An account of the good effects derived from the External Employment of Tar Ointment, combined with Sulphur, in Cancerous Affection.* BY WILLIAM MACDONALD, M.D., Lecturer on the practice of physic, formerly lecturer on the theory of medicine in the Portland Street Medical School, Glasgow.—About twelve months ago, the late Mrs. Davidson, Hogg, residing at No. 14 Sharp's lane, Glasgow, applied to me for directions relative to the restoration of her declining health. Her age was 54 years. Her left mamma was affected with cancer, and was in the third or suppurative stage of that malignant disease. She complained of a chronic cough, coupled with tension of the nerves of the forehead and occiput; and from the age of 45 years she had an indescribable feeling of being out of order, both in the chest and in the region of the mamma which was now affected. Of late years this disorder was supposed to have been aggravated by the depressing effects of grief, brought on by the sudden departure from this world of a near relative.

I recommended to her favourable consideration the immediate employment of an alterative course of Plummer's pills, coupled with the use of sarsaparilla, before an operation for the removal of the mamma was to have been performed. She cheerfully adopted the first portion of my advice—viz., the use of the alterative course aforesaid—but demurred at the operation, and it never was performed. After having received the benefit of the advice of my medical friends for several months, she again called, and solicited some directions in place of the operation—a measure to which she was very averse.

At this period of her illness the mamma was twice the usual size, and the ulcerative process was not diminished, and, what was worse, the axilla was affected also with a large cancerous tumour. Of course an operation was out of the question in these critical circumstances.

In consequence of the salutary effects produced in many chronic ulcers now under treatment by the employment of the common tar ointment of the London Pharmacopœia, with the addition only of washed sublimed sulphur, I have had no hesitation in making trial of its effects.