

they give the notes of one such case, no lesion of any kind being found on post mortem examination. Vaginal hysterectomy is, according to one of the authors, particularly fatal in hysterical cases.—*British Medical Journal*.

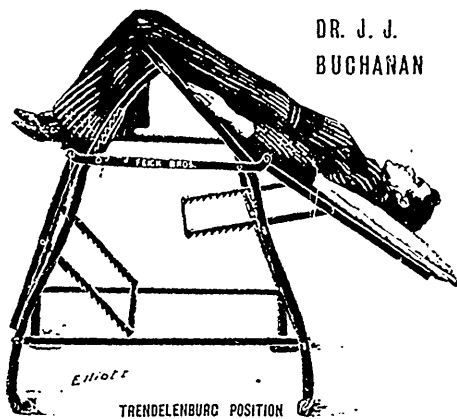
CHRONIC SULPHONAL POISONING.—Schulz (*Neurol. Centralb.*) records a case of chronic sulphonal poisoning with fatal ending. The patient, a woman aged fifty-nine, had been under treatment some years for headaches, constipation, and restlessness, and was extremely hysterical. On account of sleeplessness she had recently been taking sulphonal in doses of 15 grains, and had taken altogether about half an ounce within a month. When admitted to hospital for obstinate constipation with vomiting, there was a smell of acetone in the breath, the tongue was dry and fur-

red, there was great thirst, with restlessness and insomnia. All the organs otherwise were normal; the urine was normal. The next evening sulphonal, gr. xxv, was given, and the following day the urine was scanty, brownish-red in color, but free from albumen. Four days later the gait was unsteady, and five days after this there was weakness of the limbs, and anæsthesia of the legs down to the ankles; knee jerks, previously normal, were now difficult to obtain. Weakness increased, the knee-jerks disappeared, incontinence of urine and fæces occurred, and two days later the patient died suddenly. The urine since the single dose of sulphonal mentioned, had continued brownish-red with no albumen, but a few altered red blood corpuscles. The color was found to be due to hæmatorporphyrin. Schulz considers that the toxic results after only one dose of sulphonal were due to the obstinate

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