

from benzoic acid and glycol in the blood hippuric acid was formed after flowing through the kidneys. This result, however, had been achieved long before. In like manner from phenol and sodium sulphate were produced phenol sulphate. The blood corpuscles were not found essential for effecting these syntheses, though oxygen in the blood was indispensable.

We are inclined to lay some stress on these results, not alone for their inherent worth, but as tending to weaken faith in those mechanical views of physiology which now are somewhat prevalent. In a former number we called attention to Adam's investigations, from which it appeared that rate of flow and not blood-pressure was of the greater importance in determining the work of the Malpighian corpuscles.

ANOTHER CASE OF ACCOUCHEMENT DURING HYPNOTISM.

M. Mesnet recently reported an interesting case to the French Academy of Medicine (*La Semaine Médicale*, 13th July, 1887). The patient was a young primipara, aged 22, from early youth easily hypnotisable. In the early stages of labor she bore her pains very impatiently; but when hypnotised, her sufferings ceased and labor went on without a murmur. She said "she felt the contractions coming, but did not suffer—she felt very well in that state." As the pains intensified she became uneasy, and during the expulsion period seemed to suffer greatly. Her cries, gestures, attitude and movements were the same as if she had been awake and conscious. Labor was normal, lasting six hours; delivery was easy, the uterus contracted well, no hemorrhage. She was wakened up half an hour after the termination of labor, and the disappearance of her abdominal tumor was the first hint she had that her confinement was over. Though she had seemed to feel the last expulsive pains so acutely, she retained no recollection of them whatever, and remembered nothing from the time she was hypnotised. This case affords a new and remarkable illustration of the effect of hypnotism upon the memory. While hypnotised she spoke freely, described her sensations, and during the last hour complained bitterly of pain; yet when awakened she remembered nothing. M. Mesnet says