

hemiparesis, paralysis of the facial nerve, complaints of the cavity of the cranium, &c.

M. Honoré mentioned a case of intense neuralgia, which was alleviated by the breathing of the vapour of ether, placed in a vessel with a large mouth, held close under the mouth.

M. Malgaigne made the following important observations as to the consequence of the use of ether. In the case of amputation of the leg, he believed that there was less reaction than in ordinary cases; and another point, which he recommended to the attention of psychologists, was, that in most cases it appeared that the seat of sensation for pain was different from the seat of ordinary sensibility. Many patients retained perfect consciousness, understanding what was said to them, answering correctly, but feeling no pain; it really appeared to him that there were two centres of sensation.

A discussion also took place at the meeting of the Academy of Sciences, on January 18, when M. Velpeau stated that he had failed in obtaining a complete and satisfactory result from the use of the vapour of ether. One patient had proved unmanageable. In another, the sensorial functions were evidently disturbed; but he had suffered pain while being operated on. A third had suffered in a like manner; but declared that he was plunged into such a state of ecstasy, that he was unable to complain. In short, it appeared that it succeeded with certain persons, and failed with others; and that it was not proved to be altogether without danger.

M. Dumas said that he had been led, from some experiments, to believe that the ether possessed a cataleptic power.

On the 22d of January, M. Velpeau, at the *Hôpital du Charité*, having used an apparatus constructed by M. Charrière, succeeded perfectly in removing a tumor without pain. The ethereal vapour was inhaled by the patient about four minutes, after which time complete insensibility and relaxation of the muscles were manifested.

M. H. Larrey, who assisted at the operation, suggested the valuable assistance that the agent would render in the reducing of difficult luxations.

At the *Hôpital du Midi*, a case occurred in which the sensibility seemed to have been exalted by the inhalation.

The influence of the vapour has also been tested by M. Guersant, at the *Hôpital des Enfants*, on two children. One child, whose finger was amputated, declared that she felt pain, but was totally unable to cry out. The other, on recovering from the state of insensibility into which she had been thrown, declared that she had no recollection whatever of the operation.

At the *Hôpital du Midi*, M. Riord, in injecting in a double hydrocele, employed the inhalation with success, though he was obliged to renew its influence twice during the operation. A second patient, afflicted with single hydrocele, after respiring vapour for thirteen minutes, fell into a complete state of insensibility; the limbs were relaxed; the pupils contracted; the conjunctiva was injected; and the pulse not affected. A third patient, who was apparently perfectly under the influence of the ether, suffered the usual amount of pain during an operation for removing a tumor from the rectum.

In the first two cases, a state of intense exhilaration preceded that of insensibility. In the last, the use of the ether was followed by sickness and fainting.

At the meeting of the *Société de Chirurgie de Paris*, January 13, 1847, M. Malgaigne mentioned a case in which the inhalation having been continued for too long a time, caused sinking of the pulse and coldness of the extremities to such an extent, that fears were entertained for the life of the patient.

At the meeting of the *Académie de Médecine*, January 28, 1847, M. Landonzy called attention to a case, where hemorrhage, after removal of a small tumor from the mastoid process, did not come on till half an hour after the performance of the operation; and suggested that surgeons should be on their guard lest accidents might happen from the arteries not being secured.

M. Honoré stated, that he had succeeded in relieving a patient afflicted with most obstinate neuralgia of the face, by the inhalation of ether vapour for about two minutes.

*Académie des Sciences*, meeting January 25.—M. Gerdy related several experiments with the vapour of ether, the results of which had been satisfactory in the highest degree.

From the above it will be seen, that the success which our neighbours have met with has been varied; but we think that

in most of the cases in which the ether failed to produce its stupefying effect, that fault was clearly in the instrument used for its administration. At first they attempted to use this agent by causing the patient to inspire by the nostrils, and expire by the mouth, and *vice versa*; but afterwards they found it requisite to close the nostrils while respiration was carried on by the mouth alone.

The fact announced by M. Malgaigne, that some of the patients retained their consciousness, but felt no pain while being operated on, is most interesting, and we leave it to be commented on by physiologists; but the statement requires confirmation by other observers.

The influence, also, over the power of expression of pain, is also very curious, but seemed to be quite an uncommon result; for we only find that this was the case in two out of the numerous cases quoted.

The continued lethargy, with failing of the pulse, and coldness of the extremities, is certainly a most awkward complication to deal with in treating the shock of an operation, and one which should make us cautious in the employment of the vapour of ether. In this country, in more cases than one, this unpleasant effect followed its use.

If the vapour of ether prove an efficient therapeutic agent in the treatment of neuralgic affections, then, indeed, will its introduction prove a boon to society. And we much regret that M. Honoré did not give a more detailed account of those cases in which he employed this remedy.—*London Lancet*.

Tabular Arrangement of all the Cases of Femoral and Popliteal Aneurism which have been treated by pressure on the Femoral Arteries in Great Britain and Ireland.

No.	Date.	Surgeon.	Locality.	Description of Aneurism.	Age of Patient.	Result.
1	1820	Mr. Todd	Dublin	Popliteal	30	Fem. Art. tied
2	"	"	"	"	27	"
3	1825	"	"	"	36	Cured.
4	1834	Mr. Duggan	"	Femoral	33	"
5	1826	Mr. Cusack	"	Popliteal	"	Fem. Art. tied
6	1818	"	"	"	55	Cured.
7	1814	"	"	"	26	"
8	1846	"	"	"	33	"
9	1830	Sir P. Crampton	"	Femoral	36	"
10	1812	Mr. Hutton	"	Popliteal	30	"
11	1843	Dr. Bellingham	"	"	32	"
12	1844	"	"	Femoral	35	"
13	1816	"	"	Popliteal	40	Doubtful.
14	1813	Mr. Liston	London	Femoral	30	Cured.
15	1841	"	"	"	63	"
16	1843	Dr. Harrison	Dublin	Popliteal	29	"
17	1813	Mr. Kirby	"	"	28	"
18	"	Mr. Allen	Haslar Hos.	"	32	"
19	"	Mr. Greatrex	London	"	27	"
20	"	Mr. Porter	Dublin	"	29	"
21	1845	"	"	"	"	"
22	1814	Mr. Jolley	Torbay	"	23	"
23	1843	Mr. Harrison	Bristol	"	44	Fem. Art. tied
24	1845	Mr. Dartnall	Chatham	"	39	Cured.
25	1846	Mr. Mackern	Litherland	Femoral	30	"
26	1845	Mr. Storke	London	Popliteal	32	"
27	1846	"	"	"	24	"
28	1845	Mr. O'Farrell	Dublin	"	32	"
29	1846	"	"	"	37	"

Thus 29 cases of aneurism—6 femoral and 23 popliteal—have been treated by pressure upon the artery leading to the sac; in 4 the femoral artery was tied, chiefly from want of confidence in pressure, on the part of either surgeon or patient, and in 25 instances this mode of treatment was successful. Mr. Todd's three cases, Sir Philip Crampton's case, Mr. Duggan's case, Mr. Cusack's case in 1826, and also that of Dr. Molloy and Mr. O'Farrell's two cases, have not been before introduced into any of the notices or tables of this operation which have appeared in the periodicals.

In ten instances, local pressure on the aneurismal tumour by means of pads and bandages was used, in addition to the pressure by the instrument. An examination of the published cases will show how irregularly the pressure was applied; and it is quite apparent that its removal at a particular time, even for a few minutes, and allowing the flow of blood through the sac again to take place, will undo all that had been before effected. It is, moreover, very possible, that in many instances the pressure has