

riod, she had resided some months out of town and menstruated regularly. She was the patient of a medical friend, and I had an opportunity of seeing the child about six weeks after its birth, when it was still very small, and I had no doubt of its being a satisfactory case of early viability. It survived, and is now upwards of 10 years of age: It took the breast well at birth. The testes descended, two months after birth, accompanied by a loop of intestine, producing scrotal hernia, which was radically cured by the use of a truss at the age of 18 months.

ART. XII.—*Treatment of Acute Articular Rheumatism by lemon juice.*

By HECTOR PELTIER, M.D. Edin, Professor of Institutes of Med, Montreal School of Medicine; Physician to the Hotel Dieu, &c.

I wish to place before your readers the result obtained by myself with lemon juice in acute rheumatism. I have now used it since 1850, and whenever it could be properly tested. It is to Dr. G. O. Rees, of Guy's Hospital, London, that we are indebted for the employment of this medicine in rheumatism. I cannot give any reliable explanation of its decided benefits, because alkalies act also beneficially in many cases of a similar kind. The way I employed it was simply by directing that the lemon itself should be sucked by my patients now and then in the course of the day. They never used more than two per diem. Under its influence, the pain and stiffness of the joints diminished in four or five days and sometimes sooner.

The cases I have had were genuine acute rheumatism, with all the characteristic symptoms present, but free from complication with any inflammation of the heart. I have had frequent opportunities of testing what I would call this invaluable, though simple mode of treatment in the Hotel Dieu of Montreal, as well as in private practice, for during the last winter and spring, rheumatism raged extensively in this city. I know well that all species of remedies have been tried in rheumatism, but none have given me so much satisfaction as lemon juice. As for colchicum, its reputation is losing ground, and I think with good reason. It is a powerful medicine, but has been used too freely, and given in altogether too large doses. From my experience, I am disposed to believe that the majority of practitioners will honestly confess that it has done more harm than real benefit in both gout and rheumatism, and as it has been lately remarked with great propriety by Dr. Bouchardat, in his *annuaire de thérapeutique* for 1852, "the greatest number of cases of death from gout or rheumatism is more attributable to colchicum than to the metastasis of the disease, as we are prone to say when a bad result supervenes." Salines are very useful in acute rheumatism, and form the