

An amount which might be given in 24 or 48 hours with safety and benefit if so divided as to be administered in hourly or two-hourly doses, would most probably set up alarming symptoms after each dose, if its administration was effected by fewer doses, given, say, six or eight hours apart.

Although the system will acquire a tolerance of the remedy, we are always safer to be on the watch for its cumulative effects, than we are to be anticipating the failure of its remedial effects through tolerance, by increasing our doses of it.

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(Reported by K. N. Fenwick.)

Though Esmarch's method of bloodless operations has been used several times during the past winter with uniform success, so far as the proceeding itself is concerned, yet one of its disadvantages will be seen by the two following cases, which appear to show that the pressure of the elastic tubing diminishes for a time the size of the bloodvessels to such an extent that careful scrutiny at the time of the operation fails to reveal the open mouths of the vessels, which, in other circumstances, would have been twisted or ligated, so that afterwards secondary hemorrhage may probably cause as much blood to be lost to the patient as if the bloodless method had not been adopted. As a matter of course this interferes with the healing process; particularly so when the wound has to be re-opened.

CASE 1st.—James C——, æt. 30, was admitted January 19th with a cartilaginous tumour, six inches in length and four inches in breadth, adhering to the head of the tibia.

On the 31st the tumor was excised, the rubber-tubing having been previously applied in the usual way. Not a drop of blood was lost during the operation. On loosening the tourniquet it was found that the anterior tibial artery had been wounded where the under surface of the tumour was in contact with it. This was ligated, and the edges of the wound secured by sutures. A large amount of oozing took place for several days afterwards.

CASE 2nd.—Fred T——, æt. 21, was admit-

ted February 4th with diseased knee joint. On the 14th, at 4 p.m., chloroform was administered, the rubber-tubing applied and secured by a tourniquet about the middle of the thigh. While amputation was being performed at the lower third of the thigh no blood was lost, two arteries were ligated, and oozing soon stopped by exposure to the air. The stump was then washed with aq. carb. (1 to 40), the edges brought together, and secured by sutures. Eight hours afterwards the house surgeon was called up and found that arterial blood was escaping from the stump; and, upon taking off the bandage, a fine stream was seen issuing from the wound. The sutures had to be removed, and a small artery was ligated. Since this occurrence he has been doing well, but the healing process has been to some extent interfered with.

Correspondence.

"UNION IS STRENGTH."

(To the Editor of the Lancet.)

SIR,—While we were disunited Parliament refused to pass the Bill proposed by the Medical Council. The moment we became united Parliament yielded, and to-day Ontario has on her statutes the best law ever enacted in the interest of the medical profession; and what is in the interest of the profession is manifestly in the interest of the public at large. This Bill would have passed a year ago but for the ignorance which prevailed among members of the profession as to its provisions. I am satisfied, that at the present moment, one-third of the practitioners throughout the country are in blissful ignorance of the character of the law as it now stands. They have some vague ideas about a council and taxation, but they have no intelligent conception of the real state of matters. For example, an old and highly-respected practitioner, residing in a neighboring town, wrote to the representatives of his county to vote against the bill lately become law, and why? because it contained no penal clauses! Comparatively few take the trouble to look carefully into such matters at the proper time, and the result is, that when the time for action comes, they act inconsiderately or are guided by what they read in the papers. The battle is not yet over. Dr.