

At the same time M. Giraldez, Surgeon to the Foundling Hospital, made some experiments. He had operated at the time of his report (March 4th) upon twenty-five patients, children from three months to ten years old. In all, with a single exception, the anæsthesia was produced in a very short space of time, the minimum of which was one minute, and the maximum three. We cite two observations :

A little patient about six years old was submitted to the action of amylene, in order to examine more easily its eyes. The child breathed the vapor with evident repugnance, it showed no signs of suffocation, it had not that abundant salivation which is sometimes produced by chloroform, but a sudden and very marked weeping was produced, as when vapors of ammonia are respired. This infant reacted very slightly however, against the vapors of amylene; in a few moments, hardly a minute, it remained immovable, insensibility was obtained. The inspirations were suspended. From 3 i to 3 iss of amylene was employed. The infant awoke with the same rapidity, it did not complain, and willingly accepted food.

The second observation is the exception mentioned above. The patient was a girl four years old. The apparatus for inhalation fitted badly to the face, so that compresses were used. The child at first pushed away the hand of the operator, saying that it smelt badly. Soon, however, she became immoveable, the weeping was as marked as in the case just cited. At the end of about two minutes she showed a rigidity and contraction of the limbs which is contrary to the assertion of Dr. Snow.

Soon, however, relaxation commenced, and in three minutes anæsthesia was obtained. Still, it was easy to see that the sleep did not resemble that produced by chloroform. It was evidently less profound; the child opened its eyes, made a few movements, and spoke as though dreaming, yet without showing any pain while the operation was going on. The pulse and respiration was as in the normal state. Amylene being volatile the whole of it was soon consumed, that is to say 3 v in about eight minutes, before the operation was terminated. Recourse was had to chloroform, and it was soon easy to judge how much more rapid and active in action this substance is. In a few seconds the child was completely comatose, and appeared much more profoundly asleep than before. This sleep was prolonged several minutes after the operation was terminated, while the child woke up the minute she ceased to breathe the vapors of amylene. The operation continued twelve minutes. With this exception M. Giraldez observes that all the children respired the amylene without effort, without much resistance; in all the respiration was calm as normally; the anæsthesia was obtained without con-