

greatly helped him on at this time. He rapidly obtained his Doctor's degree, and became successively Surgeon to the Hospitals, and Assistant-Professor at the Faculty of Medicine.

In 1830, the Professorship being thrown open to competition, Velpeau at once entered the lists. He went in five times before succeeding, and each time he produced a book on the subject taught in the chair for which he was a candidate. At last, in 1835, he was appointed to the chair of Clinical Surgery and entered the Charité, in which he continued to lecture till he took to his bed, never to rise again.

The disease under which Velpeau had been suffering of late was an enlargement of the prostate. He had only been confined to this bed for a few days when he was seized with pneumonia, which speedily proved fatal. His last words were, "*il faut toujours travailler, mes amis.*"

Among the causes of death given in the June report of the Lowell, Mass., city physician, was "Homœopathic foolery."

Forty years ago surgeons and doctors generally officiated as teeth-pullers whenever occasion demanded. In 1820 there were but thirty practising dentists in the United States. In 1850 the number had increased to 2,923, and at present there are about 5,000 regular dentists.

Nitrate of silver stains may be removed from the hands or clothing by the combination of tincture of iodine and a solution of hyposulphite of soda.

LOBELIA IN ASTHMA.

The *Lobelia inflata*, a drug much praised and abused by quacks and somewhat slighted by the profession, is in constant use among the out-patients of the City Hospital, for diseases of the chest. In doses of ten minims, three times in the day, it appears frequently to produce the most admirable effects in cases of chronic bronchitis, complicated with a tendency to paroxysmal asthma. It is commonly given in conjunction with sedatives, expectorants, or stomachics, often agreeing remarkably well with the latter. Patients taking it frequently complain of much nausea and sense of depression during the half hour or so following each dose, but it seems on the whole to decidedly improve the appetite and digestion. If the nausea be excessive, combination with a few drops of dilute hydrocyanic acid is often useful. — *Medical Times & Gazette.*