

days sometimes passed without any more escaping. As it came away, the tumour proportionately diminished in size, the hæmorrhage ceased, the pains gradually disappeared, and she began to obtain rest, and to recover her appetite and strength; at the end of June, 1850, she was able to walk out of doors. In about three weeks more, the catamina again appeared naturally, and have since continued to do so, without any discharge in the intervals; and at the present time, and for so many months past, she pronounces herself to be quite well, and has the appearance of being in perfect health.

I should mention, that during the last twelve months of her sufferings, in opposition to the earnest entreaties of Dr. Lever and myself, she (thinking her recovery impossible) would not permit any vaginal plug to be used, and refused, almost entirely, to take any kind of remedy, even morphia or opium.

Dr. Lever informed me that he considered this a very rare case, there being only three or four upon record of a similar kind.

MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE.

POISON—ARSENIC.

[The first part of the Guy's Hospital Reports for 1850, contains an important paper by Mr. Alfred Taylor, relative to cases of poisoning. Many of the points contained in it are of so much consequence, that it would be highly desirable that Practitioners should, if possible, study it for themselves; but as this privilege is debarred to the greater number of the Profession in this Province, it has seemed desirable to make such an abstract of the paper in question as will enable us to lay the chief points of interest before our readers. If some should complain that the cases are not fully enough reported, we must plead in extenuation our want of room. We have endeavoured to select from each case the particular points of instruction it affords, being very careful not to omit anything which is *necessary* to the understanding of each. We must, however, once more remind our readers, that we only give an abstract, and pretend to nothing more.]

The first nine are cases of poisoning by arsenic.

1st.—In the first case about 150 grains of white arsenic were taken on an empty stomach; the symptoms were chiefly of irritation of the mucous membranes of the stomach and intestines, viz., vomiting and purging. She retained her senses throughout, hence the poison seems to have exerted no remote action on the brain; it had, however, a powerful remote action on the heart. In *an hour and a half* after taking the arsenic she was found in a state of collapse, with her pulse imperceptible.

The hydrated oxide of iron was administered freely and the stomach pump employed; during its employment however syncope came on, and the unfortunate patient died in a few minutes.

Death took place in this instance in the *remarkably short space of two hours and a half*. The hydrated oxide of iron, though administered abundantly, was *utterly useless*. We are left in the dark how far injudicious persistence in using the stomach pump might have accelerated death.

"It yet remains to be proved that it (the oxide of iron) possesses any chemical efficacy whatever in arresting the action of arsenic, when the poison has been swallowed in the state of *powder*, * * * * * enough of arsenic may be absorbed in an hour and a half to occasion death."