


MATTERS OF COURSE.

When a citizen (prominent or otherwise) is cut off, by congestion of the lungs, or by any other malady, his neighbours pull a grave face at the tidings; press and pulpit unite to eulogize him, he was necessarily an embodiment of all the virtues; "*the best advice*" was at hand, the doctors were superlatively attentive, and not less kind, the ministers and they unite their testimony that his time had come (this latter circumstance is but too apt to be a sequence of the coming of the doctor); pious friends are satisfied that the deceased's departure is traceable to the will of Providence; scores of vehicles filled with smoking mourners attend his remains to the grave; all the above-named persons form their estimate of his property; such positions of importance as he may have held, will be swiftly filled, and himself scarcely less swiftly forgotten; the last thought that is likely to suggest itself to most persons is—whether the malady, or perhaps we should say *the means* which carried him off, might not have been prevented; whether for instance, there are not well recognized means for dealing successfully with such a disorder as congestion of the lungs, and how it comes to pass that a body of medical monopolists fail to recognize any such means.

MALPRACTICE.


A woman of this city has been treated by a ladies' favorite physician, for what the doctor pronounced to be ulceration; no formation of matter had taken place, and there were no other symptoms of ulceration in the case; the good woman however had to pay thirty dollars or more, for learning what was not the matter with her.

HIVES.

 A girl of fourteen, who was suffering from hives, was treated lately by an amateur, in the following manner:—He recommended her to be bathed with tepid water, and as the eruption developed itself, he used that which would produce a similar eruption, viz.: *urtica urens*, or stinging nettle; the girl was well the next day.

in Toronto

ERYSIPELAS.

 *at Memphis*
A child was being duly painted with iodine, according to the requirement of orthodox practitioners, and as the combined result of the disorder and the treatment of the doctor, was given up by that gentleman; our friend the amateur went to the rescue, and as the result of his visit, the iodine was washed off the inflamed thigh of the child, and the part was powdered over with buck-wheat flour; after the lapse of about three days, the amateur was surprised to see the erysipelas re-appear in the child's foot; the solution of the mystery was afforded by the circumstance of the child's nurse being a staunch devotee of orthodoxy, and having as a consequence stealthily repainted the thigh and so driven the disorder to the foot; the nurse's errors having been corrected, the buck-wheat flour was re-applied, belladonna and *apis mellifica* were administered to the child, a temperature of about sixty degrees was maintained, and the child's life was saved. It is hardly necessary to add that orthodox learn nothing from the circumstance.

A woman has died at Chester, Pa., from the effect of the treatment of one S. Gast, a travelling cancer-doctor. Gast has in consequence taken his departure. What a dearth of doctors would ensue, were the licensed slaughterers to act according to the intuition of this unlicensed gentleman.