

trates in a striking manner the ridiculous recommendations in therapeutics that are constantly finding their way into print. The reviewer met with it in a "Journal for Diseases of Children," where it formed the subject of a paper by Dr. Blik. This remedy was to hold the rump of a pigeon against the anus of the little patient during the paroxysm. The article he tells us, was followed, in the next number of the "Journal," by a communication, entitled, "an addition to Dr. Blik's communication on the Pigeon's Rump Cure in the eclampsia of children, by Dr. J. Weisse, of St. Petersburg." Dr. W. had tried the wonderful remedy in two cases and had met with success. "The bird, soon after its application, several times gasped for breath, and closed its eyes from time to time; it then convulsively twitched its feet, and finally vomited;" the convulsions in the child ceased, and the bird, in the manner of its kind when the breath is out of them, turned on its back with its legs erect in the air. The learned author called his medical brethren to institute an investigation respecting this method of treatment, as if really to be depended upon, "it will be such a great gain to children's practice, particularly among the lower orders." "We mentally offered," says the reviewer, "(such as were disposed to act in conformity with Dr. Blik's request) the advice of an old French Physician, who, on being asked his opinion of a new remedy that was highly praised for its extraordinary virtues in a certain disease, very gravely replied, 'Dépêchez-vous de vous en servir pendant qu'il guérit.'"

We scarcely think this remedy will be at all efficacious in the Eclampsia of Pregnancy. In every orthodox work on midwifery heretofore published, the great remedy for Puerperal Convulsions was bleeding. No moderate depletion would suffice, but bleeding must be large and heroic; forty, fifty, sixty, or more ounces of the vital fluid in the space of an hour. We have often thought to deplete to such an extent, those pale, delicate, hydremic women, who, we may safely say, form the majority of those affected by convulsions, was anything but safe or proper treatment; and we are pleased to find that modern writers, who have assisted in working out the true pathology of Eclampsia, are raising their voices against the indiscriminate use of the lancet in its treatment.

If a case presented itself where the disease resulted from undue pressure on the spinal chord, or from its stimulation, by excess of blood, venesection would be urgently demanded, with the view of securing its sedative effect on the nervous centres, and to relieve them from the effects of mechanical pressure; but, as we have already mentioned, the vast majority are the result of uræmic poisoning, which places the patient in a condition not at all tolerant of depletion. The great point to be ascer-