

EMERGENCIES,
AND
HOW TO TREAT THEM.

CHAPTER I.

HÆMORRHAGE.

General Considerations.—Results of Negligence.—Arterial and Venous Hæmorrhage.—Effects of Profuse Hæmorrhage.—Natural and Artificial Methods of suppressing Hæmorrhage.—Hæmorrhagic Diathesis.—Transfusion.

MEDICINE is often reproachfully characterized as a science of experiments, a profession remarkable for its brilliant uncertainties and conflicting theories. Superficial observation and imperfect means of study gave origin to this sentiment when the healing art was in its infancy, and it is yet retained by a few who find it a convenient excuse for all their errors. There are conflicting theories in medicine as well as in other professions. Such theories are the mainsprings of progress; they develop strength and incite to laborious investigations.

Uncertainty appertains to every science that has not arrived at its maximum development: but it is not especially characteristic of our profession. The discoveries of to-day will necessarily be modified by the developments of