

of what is going on in this line, allow me to give you the weekly calendar of clinics in the different medical colleges, hospitals, infirmaries, etc.: Monday: 2 surgical, 1 obstetrical, 1 medical, 1 venereal, and 2 eye clinics; Tuesday: 3 surgical, 3 medical, 1 ophthalmic; Wednesday: 2 medical, 3 surgical; Thursday: 2 surgical, 2 medical, 1 obstetrical; Friday: 2 surgical, 2 medical, 1 eye and ear, 1 venereal, 1 obstetrical; Saturday: 2 medical, 1 surgical, 1 childrens' diseases. Besides these, on Thursday, at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Professor Draper holds a clinic on skin diseases; the Cosmopolitan Eye and Ear Infirmary is open every day at 2 o'clock, P.M., and there are many other institutions where most invaluable clinical advantages can be freely enjoyed by all.

ANTISEPTIC SURGERY.—M. Maisonneuve, of Paris, contends that it is our own fault if the results of the great operations of surgery are not favorable. He summarizes his method as follows: "Lifeless organic liquids are the only cause of the untoward state of wounds. The indications, therefore, are to prevent the death of the organic liquids, and to eliminate them when deprived of life. To fulfil the first indication we must prevent the prolonged contact of living fluids with dead organisms, be the latter solid, liquid, or gaseous. To fulfil the second, we should eliminate dead fluids by counter openings, irrigations, or drainage, but especially by continuous aspiration or sucking up, which last measure may advantageously replace all those above mentioned." This aspiration is carried out by means of a bag connected with a tube.

M. Jules Guérin contends that he is the author of the method, having all his life advocated subcutaneous surgery. He, however, does not, like M. Maisonneuve, pay attention to dead liquids; his object is to prevent complications by an apparatus either before or after the introduction of air, which he calls pneumatic occlusion.

Such is the difference of views and practice between those two ingenious men, who, after having worked together in this field of inquiry in a friendly manner, are now engaged in rather bitter polemics.

M. Maisonneuve states now that his method is carried out among the patients at the Hotel Dieu, he does not see any fatal cases after amputations, compound fractures, &c. These favorable results naturally bring to mind the success which is nowadays attending Lister's method. The latter surgeon endeavors to prevent the admission of germs into wounds, and thus considers that no decomposition takes place. M. Maisonneuve prevents the death or decomposition of fluids by a sucking or aspirating apparatus; and M. Jules Guérin by pneumatic occlusion, as he calls it—i.e., atmospheric compression and exclusion of air. Maisonneuve and Guérin are not so generally imitated in France as Lister is in Britain. Let the three methods abide the best of trials—viz., the trial of time.—*Lancet*.

THE SMALL POX.—This disease is now very prevalent and very virulent in the Western cities. A hundred deaths a day have been reported in Cincinnati. It is declared to be an epidemic in St.

Louis. It is scourging Chicago, though nothing is said about it in the newspapers. In Milwaukee the public schools and the rink have been closed in consequence, and the shutting up of the theatres, concert saloons, and other places where people most do congregate, has been discussed. The Board of Health of Detroit have determined, if possible, to take a bond of this deadly fate, and protect the city against it by precautionary and preventive measures, and "stamp it out" the moment it appears. Thus far, thanks to the sanitary authorities, the city has been peculiarly exempted, but in order to guard it still more strictly, the Board of Health is determined to insist upon the necessary sanitary measures. It regards vaccination as absolutely imperative.—*Detroit Post*.

On the Employment of Belladonna in Surgical Affections.—Mr. Christopher Heath states that the action of belladonna, whether applied locally or given internally, is the same, viz., that by its action upon the vasa-motor system of nerves it diminishes the calibre of the capillaries, and thus directly reduces the vascularity of an inflamed part. Its action is thus peripheral; and it is, therefore, the opposite of aconite, whose action is central, or upon the heart itself. It does not follow, however, that the two drugs cannot be employed together; quite the contrary: the action of the one is to diminish the flow of blood to the part, whilst the other assists the tissue to get rid of the superfluity it already contains and resist its further entrance, and the two may in many morbid conditions be advantageously combined.—*The Practitioner*, Nov., 1868.

—The scientific and medical revolution which has lately been accomplished in Spain, and which we noticed in a recent annotation, is beginning to bear its fruits. As complete liberty of teaching has been proclaimed, the School of Medicine of Madrid has become a sort of open forum, where professors and alumni, workmen and employers, follow each other in rapid succession. The homocaths of Spain are in a state of jubilation, as the freedom of teaching enables them to propagate freely their own doctrines. We doubt whether the hurried and sweeping reforms which have overturned almost every existing institution in Spain will be productive of much good. The cause of science can but suffer from such precipitate measures, which will bring on a reaction, and will thus retard its slow but certain progress and development.—*Lancet*.

—Deputy-Inspector-General LONGMORE, of the British service, professor of military surgery in the army medical school at Netley, has been appointed honorary surgeon to Her Majesty the Queen, vice Dr. Melvin, Inspector-General of Hospitals, deceased.—*N. Y. Med. Jour.*

Influence of Digitalis on the Pulse.—Dr. Constantin Paul has published (*Bulletin Génér. de Thérapeutique*, tome lxxiv., 1868) a research on the influence of digitalis on the pulse, in which his principal results were obtained by the use of the