

he includes (1) the promiscuous use of artificial ear-drums, for the manufacture and sale of which a company was recently floated in London with a capital of £100,000; (2) the use of electricity by all sorts of incompetent persons; (3) the mutilation, by removal, of the turbinated bones of the nose for deafness, in cases where the nose is perfectly healthy and unaffected; (4) the hypodermic injection of pilocarpine in totally unsuitable cases; (5) the division of the tensor tympani muscle for deafness. This last he describes as including in its history "a flight of the imagination, a brief notoriety, and a burial in oblivion so rapid as falls to the lot of few achievements in surgery."—*Bristol Journal*.

AN EXPLOSION OF COMPRESSED CHLORATE-OF-POTASSIUM TABLETS.—In the June number of the *Therapeutic Gazette* reference is made to an article which appeared in *La Pratique médicale* for May 5th, calling attention to an accident that had happened from carrying chlorate-of-potassium tablets in the pockets. The tablets had been prescribed for a patient who was suffering from ulcerative stomatitis, and he was in the habit of carrying the medicine about with him. One day, as he sat down, a detonation was heard, and before he could remove his clothes he was seriously burned. The tablets, wrapped in a piece of paper, were carried in his pocket together with a pen-knife, and it is supposed they detonated under the influence of concussion and set fire to his garments.

—"Well, Maggie," asked a teacher of a little girl, "how is it that you are so late this morning to school?" "Please, sir," was the reply, "there wis a wee bairn came to oor hoose this mornin'." "Ah," said the teacher with a smile, "and was not your father very pleased with the new baby?" "No, sir, my father's awa' in Edinburgh and dinna ken aboot it yet; but it wis a guid thing my mither wis at hame, for gin she had been awa' I wadna hae kent what to dae wi' it."