

SULPHATE OF IRON AS A LOCAL APPLICATION IN PHLEGMASIA DOLENS.—Dr. R. W. Crichton was led many years ago to employ the sulphate of iron as a local application in phlegmasia dolens, from the great success reported by Velpeau from its use locally in erysipelas. It had been employed exclusively in that form of phlegmasia commencing at the calf of the leg and extending upwards to the groin, where the veins are chiefly involved. It had been applied as a lotion (twenty or thirty grains to one ounce of water), as hot as the patient could comfortably bear it, generally by means of spongio-pilino. All the cases so treated had made good and rapid recoveries, contrasting favourably with cases formerly treated by leeching and ordinary hot fomentations. Muricated tincture of iron was, at the same time, given in large doses. The same method of treatment was suggested in other cases of phlebitis. The action of these remedies was referred to their power of controlling vascular dilatation, and also to their antiseptic powers.—*British Medical Journal*, August 26, 1871.

DIPLOMA FORGERY IN ENGLAND.—It would appear that a traffic in diplomas, even more dishonest than the traffic in degrees "in Absentia," is going on in England. The *British Medical Journal* gives a narrative of circumstances which have led to the discovery of the affair and illustrates the impossibility under English law of obtaining anything like protection for public life and limb. A stationer in Holborn was applied to, to insert in a form of diploma, the name of the person who handed it to him. The diploma was from New York and was duly attested by the names of the examiners and the college seal. The stationer, when the customer had departed, suspected that the parchment was not all right, took it to the College of Surgeons, where, on further inspection, it was ascertained that the names of the examiners were all forged by facsimile lithography. After unceasing efforts to arouse some action on the part of diplomatists and the law, Mr. Trimmer was at length obliged to get the document photographed as the only protection possible against the carrying out of the fraud.—*Medical Press and Circular*,