

## Medical Department.

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"The lesson which I venture to think should be drawn is, that chloroform should rarely (save in cases of parturition) be employed as an anæsthetic."—DR. JENNINGS, in the *British Medical Journal*.

Dr. LEDOUBLE, Professor of Anatomy in the Medical School of Tours, who has long been making researches on muscular variations, announces that he has discovered ten new muscles in the human body.

EICHIORN AND HEINZ, of Munich, have discovered a new anæsthetic of singular power; a preparation of "benzo-methylic ether," for which they publish the formula, and to which they give the name of "Orthoform." Used in form of powder it is said to extinguish the pain of deep burns, at present the despair of surgeons. The relief lasts many hours, and the application can be renewed with safety from time to time. No evil results followed a case where a patient, suffering from a terrible form of ulcer, had been sprinkled for a week. It has been administered in large doses to arrest the pain of cancer in the stomach.

ACUTE SEPTICÆMIA OF DENTAL ORIGIN.—The particulars of a case of acute septicæmia of dental origin are recorded in the *Transactions of the Manchester Odontological Society* of recent date. The patient, a girl aged 14, was first seen on Saturday, April 10, and was suffering much pain. Examination of the mouth showed that three teeth, namely, the left first maxillary molar (the region of which was much swollen) and the first right and left mandibular molars necessitated extraction. The teeth were removed without difficulty, and the patient made an apparently quick recovery. Soon after returning home she was seized with severe headache, the symptoms becoming aggravated as the day wore on. The swelling too considerably increased, the left eye becoming ultimately closed, and the right side of the face also affected. The patient became completely comatosed. On the Sunday, about 10 p.m. streptococcus anti-toxin was injected, but failed to relieve the condition, death taking place on the Monday morning about 7 o'clock.

ACTINOMYCOSIS CURED BY IODIDE OF POTASSIUM.—Duchamp (*Lyon Medical*, September 12th, 1897) records the case of a carpenter, aged 24, who had suffered for five months from a swelling in the left cheek, which varied from time to time in volume. Abscess formed and fistulous tracts developed, and opened on the