

in order to detect any conditions likely to be etiological factors in the case. The attendant will therefore take him and a copy of his history to the different rooms in succession, and return here with their respective official reports."

(Some Hours Later.)

Surgeon (loquitur).—"Gentlemen, the patient has now returned to us, and I ask your attention while I read the reports of the various specialists."

Ophthalmological Department.—Case No. 120,736. This patient is myopic. As I recall a case where a similar visual defect was the cause of injury to the great toe in a person who "stubbed" it against the curbstone, I have ordered appropriate lenses to correct the difficulty, as a prophylactic against the recurrence of the disease. It is essential, however, that this treatment should be supplemented by wearing a loosely-fitting shoe.

Otological Department.—Case No. 120,736. I find no defect of audition. As the patient's trouble may have arisen from want of suitable support to the foot, I have thought it best to shorten the stapes leather two holes.

Rhinological Department.—Case No. 120,736. A case of nasal toe nail. Wishing to bring about a radical change in the parts, I have removed with the curette all adenoid growths, together with the adherent mucous membrane, from the cavities and packed them all with aseptic gauze—which should be removed if the patient wishes to sneeze.

Department Abdominal Surgery.—Case No. 120,736. Drs. A—, B—, and C—, in consultation. The history showing that the patient's mother during life lost a set of false teeth, Dr. A— reasoning that "tooth and nail" are generally associated in action, is inclined to think the set may have been swallowed unconsciously and remained in the patient's stomach. Of course, he advises an operation.

Dr. B—, in view of the accepted belief that "*Gallia est omnis divisa in partes tres*," thinks it possible that one of them may have wandered down to the great toe, and advises an exploratory incision of the gall-bladder to ascertain if either part be missing. The "*Gallic boot of love*," cited by Dr. O. W. Holmes, seems to indicate a tendency of the gall to the foot.

Dr. C— concurs entirely with both of these opinions, but on general grounds advises the removal of the appendix. The patient, however, avers that this has been already done, and that he has it in a bottle at home, which he will fetch if required. It is therefore deemed advisable to await further development.

Gynæcological Department.—Case No. 120,736. Palpation reveals no abnormal condition of uterus or appendages. A medical student calling our attention to the fact that the patient wears pants

and has well developed male generative organs, we doubt if this is a proper case for this department.

Department Genito-urinary Diseases.—Case No. 120,736. Organs apparently healthy. It, however, is not impossible that the patient may have had a stone (vesical) which was passed naturally and impinged upon and injured the great toe.

Department of Neuroses, etc.—Case No. 120,736. The result of a careful examination of this case indicates a deficient enervation of his lower extremities. Two well marked areas of impaired sensibility or partial anæsthesia are located in the gluteal regions beneath the tuberosities of the ischia. His history not mentioning this, we questioned him as to how long the condition had existed. His replies were unsatisfactory—merely to this effect, that he had "sat so long upon those d—d hard benches that his — got numb." A rubber cushion with two holes is recommended, and the case should be kept under observation.

"There, gentlemen," continued the surgeon, as he finished reading to them the reports, "you have the result of a careful scientific enquiry into this case. I shall now send the patient to the chiropodist around the corner, with instructions to have the toe cleansed and a piece of sheet lead inserted under the roughened edge of the nail. I counsel you all not to lose the opportunity of witnessing the operation. Good-morning, gentlemen!"
—*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.*

HUMORS OF HOMŒOPATHY.

Richard Bentley, the famous scholar who had as much experience of controversy as any man that ever lived, used to say that no man was ever written down except by himself. We commend this maxim to the attention of the disciples of Hahnemann. These guileless persons often complain that they are evil-entreated by the professors of scientific medicine, their doctrines being misrepresented and their practice unjustly ridiculed. But are not their worst enemies those of their own household? Take the following samples of their teaching as set forth in all seriousness in their own organ. The *American Homœopathist* gravely assures all whom it may concern that if a patient sleeps with his knees apart *chamomilla* is indicated; if with his legs stretched out at full length, *pulsatilla*; if with one leg drawn up and the other stretched out, *stannum*. If the patient has his head always turned to one side, *cina* is indicated; if he bends his head forward, *staphysagria*; if backward, *hyoscyamus*. So much for the head and the legs. The hands and arms are the object of still more mysterious refinements. If the patient lie with his hands on his abdomen, *pulsatilla* is indicated; the same drug is to be used