

sensation in the scalp of the left side. Her skin had lost its previously dirty-yellow colour, and her appetite was keen. She was ordered to discontinue the pills, and to take some rhubarb, ammonia, and æther in peppermint water. A fortnight afterwards, she returned to the country quite well.

64, Harley Street, W., June 1872.—*British Medical Journal*.

RUPTURE OF THE HEART.

By W. WYNN WESTCOTT, M. B. Lond., Martock.

S. V., aged 65, married, a carpenter, and a man of good general health and strength, in the summer of 1872 was struck on the forehead by the accidental recoil of an iron bar. This inflicted a wound which injured the temporal artery, and was followed by very free hæmorrhage. Last December, when returning home intoxicated from a neighbouring village, he fell over a bridge and struck his forehead against a sunken stone, inflicting a wound almost identical in position with the former. This wound also caused free hæmorrhage, which was stopped with considerable difficulty. Although not an habitual drunkard, he had drunk freely for many years, and was much shaken in health by the latter accident.

On February 26th he was at a public house during the evening, in his usual health, and drank moderately, returning home sober. The next morning he got up feeling unwell, and walked to my surgery, about two hundred yards. As I was not up, he walked home again, and at 9 o'clock I went to see him. He was sitting by the fire, looking weak and ill; and presented very much the appearance of a man who had been intoxicated overnight. He complained of pain at the epigastrium and in the region of the stomach, of want of appetite, weakness, and chilliness. The bowels were constipated; pulse weak, but regular; tongue foul. I ordered two tablespoonfuls of the following mixture to be taken three times a day: R spt. ætheris sulph. ʒij; tinct. calumbæ ʒij; magnesie sulphatis ʒvj; aquæ q. s. ad ʒvj.

At 8 P. M., he appeared very much in the same state, but complained of nausea and severe pain over the stomach; yet he was lying quietly in bed, with features calm and pale. An hour later, he vomited much bilious matter and semi-digested food. The sickness then went off, and he took a basin of gruel. He expressed himself as feeling better, and his wife went to bed. In a short time, he roused his wife, asking her to make him some peppermint-tea. She did so, and he drank the tea. His wife then returned to bed, between 2 and 3 A. M. Some time later, he