

## ON FRACTURE OF THE OS HYOIDES.

By Dr. Grunder.

The following proves that this affection is not always so easy of recognition as it is usually considered to be. A labourer, æt. 63, fell from a waggon on his face, and discharged a large quantity of blood by the mouth. He found he could not swallow, and when seen twelve hours afterwards complained of severe pain in the neck and nape, with inability to turn his head, though no injury of the vertebræ could be detected. His voice was hoarse and difficult. On attempting to drink, the fluid was rejected with violent coughing, the patient declaring he felt it as if entering the air passages. An examination of the fauces led to no explanation of this condition. The epiglottis did not, however, appear to completely close the larynx, or to be in its exact position. The tongue was moveable in all directions, and pressing it down with a spatula caused no inconvenience. The hyoid seemed to possess its continuity. No crepitation or abnormal moveability could be perceived, and no pain at the root of the tongue occurred on attempting to swallow. After repeated examination, the case was concluded to be one in which the functions of the nervus vagus had undergone great disturbance, or the muscles of the larynx had become torn or paralysed.—Medicine and food were administered by means of an elastic tube. The patient had a good appetite and slept well, the pain of the neck was lost, and its motion recovered; a hectic cough, from which he had long suffered, alone remaining. After continuing, however, to go on thus well for six days, the cough increased, the appetite failed, strength was lost, the voice was scarcely audible, and in five more days the patient died exhausted. At the autopsy, a fracture of the os hyoides was found. One of the large cornua was broken, and had become firmly imbedded between the epiglottis and rima glottis, inducing the raised position of the epiglottis, loss of voice, and difficulty of swallowing. The fracture was probably produced by muscular action, a cause first assigned in a case occurring to Olivier d'Angers.—*Schmidt's Jahrbuch.*

## ON THE ABORTIVE TREATMENT OF GONORRHOEA BY CHLOROFORM.

By M. Venot.

M. Venot, of Bordeaux, states, as the result of a twelvemonth's experience, that injections of chloroform, though of little avail in confirmed gonorrhœa, are possessed of a complete abortive efficacy, if employed during the first week.—*Bull. de Therap.*

## MIDWIFERY.

## ABSENCE OF THE UTERUS.

By M. Depaul.

M. Depaul recently related a case at the Medical Society of Emulation, which he regarded as an example of absence of the uterus and vagina. It occurred in the person of a woman, æt. 22, having well developed breasts and external sexual organs, together with marked venereal desire. In place of the vaginal opening was a simple depression; and by the simultaneous introduction of a finger into the rectum, and a catheter into the bladder, no body having any analogy to the uterus could be felt. The right ovary was supposed to be detected. Every month she has all the symptoms of menstruation, except the flux.