

marked success. The safety of the patient in all such cases depends upon a free action of the integument, without which no other treatment is of any avail. *Ererichs* strongly recommends benzoic acid in such cases; but I cannot say that I have ever seen any benefit from its use. Chloroform is highly spoken of in the treatment of this affection. There is no doubt that in some forms of epilepsy—such as those arising from some form of eccentric irritation—chloroform is exceedingly serviceable; and has proved so in my hands on more than one occasion; yet, I cannot help thinking, that in cases in which the epilepsy is due to a blood poison, it is worse than useless—nay, positively injurious.

Selected Articles.

ON DEATH FROM CHLOROFORM ITS PREVENTION BY GALVANISM.

Death from chloroform is now an announcement unhappily appearing so often in the medical journals, that it becomes the duty of those who have seen much of its use, to lay the results of their experience before the profession; the more so, if they know, or think they know, one remedy more than another likely to arrest the mortality from that drug.

Ether, chloroform, and other anæsthetics, have been in constant use at the Bristol Royal Infirmary since their first introduction into notice. Three deaths from their use have occurred at that institution during this period.

CASE I.—The first occurred in the practice of my colleague Mr. Harrison, then senior surgeon to the Infirmary. Chloroform was administered to an elderly woman in the ward, before bringing her into the theatre for operation. A second drachm of chloroform was being inhaled, when, after a few stertorous respirations, the pulse and breathing suddenly ceased. Mr. Hore, the house-surgeon, immediately employed the usual means. The surgeons were sent for; and, when they saw the patient, she appeared dead. Galvanism was then tried, it "produced some convulsive efforts of the respiratory muscles," but animation was not restored. (*Association Medical Journal*, 1851, p. 109.)