

ing, and, in ovariectomy, from the chance of losing their lives in certain cases of bad adhesion from bleeding being set up by the sickness after the abdomen is closed. Whether of itself it diminishes the risk of operations, I cannot tell; but I am inclined to think that it does often save the feeble ones. This much I can say, that ether has now been given in one hundred and thirty-five cases of ovariectomy, and in two cases of successful removal of the uterus for fibro-cystic tumour. In every case, the anæsthesia was profound, many of the operations were very tedious, and, of the last sixty-six operated on, sixty have recovered.

In the beginning of 1848, Sir James Simpson wrote in the *Edinburgh Medical Journal* an elaborate statistical paper, showing that the mortality after amputation of the limbs, especially of the thigh, performed in hospitals under ether was much less than before ether was known. The results of upwards of three hundred amputations were obtained by circulars sent out in the usual way. This paper is worthy the attention of those interested in the statistics of the more recent results of operations in hospitals. Either chloroform has increased the mortality of hospital operations, or, in the early days of anæsthesia from ether, the results were better than at a later period. It may be also well to note that, when this paper was reprinted some years afterwards the words ether, etherised, and etherisation were in almost every instance displaced by the words anæsthetic, anæsthetised, and anæsthesia. Perhaps the results of operations were then considered too good for ether, which latterly came to be given the merit of being only an improvement on the mandragora and other rubbish of the middle ages.—*British Medical Journal*.

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*A Suggestive Incident which occurred during Etherisation.*

By FURNEAUX JORDAN, F.R.C.S., Surgeon at the Queen's Hospital, and Professor of Surgery at the Queen's College, etc.

Every surgeon, it may be presumed, desires to use the safest and most effectual anæsthetic. Those who prefer