

an animal has been kept for some hours in darkness; it is soluble in solutions of the biliary acids and in glycerin, and probably plays a part in the production of the red reflection from the fundus of the eye seen on ophthalmoscopic examination, as well as, in all probability in the ordinary acts of vision.—*Med. & Surg. Reporter.*

**A SUCCESSFUL OPERATION.**—Surgeon A. L. Cox, who died at Chattanooga, was an eccentric and enthusiastic army surgeon in the late war. One day, soon after the battle of Antietam, he essayed to amputate the mangled limb of a Connecticut soldier, and became so much absorbed in his delicate task that he did not notice that the man was dying. As he began sewing up the stump, a hospital steward chanced along and said, "Doctor, there's no use of going on; the man is dead." The surgeon looked up in surprise, and then said, "I am sorry that the poor fellow is dead, but there is one consolation about the matter, he has gone to heaven with a 'flap' that he can be proud of."—*Medical Record.*

**COMPENSATION OF MEDICAL EXPERTS.**—The Supreme Court of Indiana rendered a decision last month (February) of immeasurable importance, not only to the medical profession, but to the members of the other professions and callings. It was a test case, and is the first decision ever rendered on the subject by any court in this country, and, as far as we know, in any other country, and will be hailed all over the land as just and right. The particulars of the suit are briefly these: Dr. T. J. Dills and A. B. Buchman of Fort Wayne, Indiana, practicing physicians of reputation, were summoned by the defendant to give testimony as experts in a case of rape, State vs. Hamilton. They had no concern or interest in the case or man, and they refused to give the evidence unless they were properly compensated. The judge promptly ordered them to jail, and after they had exhausted every means to sustain the stand they had taken, they were forced to succumb and give the testimony, which they did under protest, and then they brought suit against the State. A decision was given in the lower court adverse to Drs. Dill and Buchman, but the Supreme Court of the State reversed the decision of the lower court and sustained the position taken by these physicians. The court "held that under the constitution the State has no right to take a man's particular services without compensation, and that the giving of expert medical testimony is a particular service within the meaning of the constitution."—*Kentucky Advocate.*

**LITHOTRITY.**—Three to five minutes is the limit usually prescribed in the operation of lithotripsy, but Prof. Bigelow, of Harvard, reports eight cases

in which the time varied from three quarters of an hour to three hours and three quarters. The danger to the bladder and urethra, Prof. Bigelow believes, is overestimated, and he is convinced that it is advisable to protract an operation indefinitely, if the stone can be thus entirely removed. To facilitate the removal of the fragments, he employs an evacuating catheter of his own device, those now in use being worse than useless. This instrument is of full size, either straight or slightly curved towards the end, and has one opening of large size and situated at the side of the extremity: a rubber ball is attached to it by a length of rubber pipe, thus enabling us to syphon off the contents of the bladder. When the instrument is introduced it is directed against the floor of the bladder, forming a depression, care being taken to turn the eye of the catheter down. Water is now injected from the bulb; in a few minutes the crushed and pulverized fragments gravitate into the depression about the beak of the instrument, the bulb is lowered, and the contents of the bladder syphoned off. The great object is to sufficiently pulverize the stone and effectually evacuate the fragments, and it is for this that the lengthened sitting is required. Of the eight cases cited one died, but the results in the other seven were so favorable, that it is to be hoped this plan may be tested further. None but phosphatic stones were operated upon.—*American Journal of Medical Sciences*, January,

### Births, Marriages, Deaths.

On the 12th ult., the wife of Dr. N. A. Powell, of Edgar, of a son.

On the 17th ult., Wm. Britton, Esq., M.D., to Mina, second daughter of F. A. Moore, Esq., all of Toronto.

On the 9th ult., Dr. Strangways, of Waldemar, to Miss Frances A., fifth daughter of Mr. Samuel Jessop of Cayuga.

On the 29th of June, Dr. J. P. Sivewright, of Chatham, to Ida Maria Earnest, of Toronto.

On the 24th of July, P. H. Spohn, M.D., of Pene-tanguishene, to Edith S., daughter of Mr. A. A. Thompson.

On the 24th of July, at South Marysburg, Wm. Minaker, M.B., I.R.C.P., to Esther M., only daughter of Isaac Striker, Esq.

At York Mills, John Myers, M.D., of Port Huron, Mich., to Amy, only daughter of Thomas Heath, Esq., York Mills.

At Picton, Ont., on the fifth of August, John Edward Rankin, M.D., in the 81st year of his age.

At Oakville, on the 23rd of August, David Dolmage Wright, M.D.

At Salisbury, N. B., on the 14th of May, E. Clawson, M.D.